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Chickasaw Times

One Tribe One Mission

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Chickasaw Times app available now!

The Chickasaw Times app provides fast and easy access to news and events of the Chickasaw Nation while you are on the move!

Upcoming Events

Drawing Made Easy
April 4, 1-4 p.m.
Artesian Gallery & Studios, Sulphur, Okla.
Contact: (580) 622-8040
April 6, 6-9 p.m.
Arts & Humanities Building, Ada, Okla.
Contact: (580) 272-5520

Moccasins Class
April 11, 1-3 p.m.
Chickasaw Council House Museum, Tishomingo, Okla.
Contact: (580) 371-3351

Silk Painting Class
April 11, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Artesian Gallery & Studios
Contact: (580) 622-8040

Watercolor Secrets
April 11, 1-4 p.m.
Artesian Gallery & Studios, Sulphur
Contact: (580) 622-8040
April 13, 6-9 p.m.
Arts & Humanities Building, Ada
Contact: (580) 272-5520

GOURDget Class Ada
April 14, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Arts & Humanities Building, Ada
Contact: (580) 272-5520

Stomp Dance Class
April 16, 6-8 p.m.
Ardmore Chickasaw Community Center, Ardmore, Okla.
(580) 622-7159

Gouache Watercolor with Impressionistic Flare
April 18, 1-4 p.m.
Artesian Gallery & Studios, Sulphur
Contact: (580) 622-8040
April 20, 6-9 p.m.
Arts & Humanities Building, Ada
Contact: (580) 272-5520

NAJA
Native American Journalists Association

Chickasaw Times Online

Celebration of the arts set for May 23

Artesian Festival to feature top Native artists

Main entertainment stage at the Artesian Arts Festival in Sulphur, Okla.

SULPHUR, Okla. – Thousands of artists, art lovers and others are expected to flock to Sulphur, Oklahoma for the second annual Artesian Arts Festival. The Chickasaw Nation is hosting the festival, Saturday, May 23, Memorial Day weekend, at the Artesian Plaza in Sulphur.

A community celebration of all forms of art, the Artesian Arts Festival highlights Native American artists working in a wide variety of art media. A variety of visual art will be on display at dozens of artists' booths, including paintings, basketry, jewelry, sculpture, metalworking, beadwork, textiles and pottery. Artists will also be demonstrating, sharing and discussing their craft in the ARTesian Art Gallery.

Activities for all ages are planned, including a special area for children's activities and a senior citizens' arts and crafts booth.

Sixteen bands will provide continuous entertainment on two stages. The lineup includes noted musical act Injunuity. The band blends various musical genres into a unique Native sound. Injunuity has won multiple Native American Music Awards (NAMMYS) and is internationally recognized as a headliner at foreign music festivals.

Artists renowned nationally and in Indian Country are preparing for the festival.

They include Joanna Underwood, a Chickasaw potter whose work is widely recognized for its interpretation of Southeastern design. Ms. Underwood is also responsible for works of art displayed in a Oka Chokmasi park southwest of the Artesian Hotel. Festival-goers may rest at the park and enjoy her works, which incorporate soothing sounds of water.

Margaret Roach Wheeler, the Chickasaw artist whose textile art and historically accurate Native American fashions have been featured in national magazines, will be on hand. Also scheduled to participate is Mike Larsen, whose painting of an Oklahoma sunrise inspired a U.S. Postage stamp and whose portraits and stories of 48 Chickasaw elders fill the pages of two books. Mr. Larsen also created "The Ar-

SEE **ARTS FESTIVAL**, PAGE 2

Chickasaw artist Joanna Underwood creates pottery in preparation for the second annual Artesian Arts Festival.

Tobachi Kanchi Art Market April 11 in Tishomingo

TISHOMINGO, Okla. - The inaugural Tobachi Kanchi (to buy and to sell) Art Market is set for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, April 11 on the grounds of the Chickasaw National Capital and Council House Museum.

The capitol and museum are at the intersection of North Fisher and Eighth Streets in Tishomingo.

The Art Market will feature a nice and varied selection of Indian art for sale. Art at the market is produced by artist citizens of Southeastern and Woodlands tribes.

Everyone is welcome to join the fun, view the artwork and enjoy the entertainment! Admission to the event is free.

Scheduled activities include a youth sidewalk chalk competition at 10:30 a.m. for age categories 4-6, 7-9, 10-12 and 13-15 with 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes for each age group. There will also be a bouncy slide for the kids.

A hamburger basket lunch with chips and a drink will be provided.

A moccasin-making class is scheduled from 1-3 p.m. Pre-registration is required.

Learn about Chickasaw culture and history at the Chickasaw National Capitol and Council House Museum, both open during market.

For more information or to register, please call (580) 371-3351.

CONTRIBUTED BY Kristen Gill, Public Affairs.

Historic Gov. Cyrus Harris items returned

WYNNEWOOD, Okla. – Two historic items removed from the final resting place of the Chickasaw Nation's first governor were returned to the tribe March 17 by officials of the Wynnewood Historical Society.

The stem of a common tobacco pipe and an 1886 dime were removed from Gov. Cyrus Harris' grave site May 31, 1961, when a flooding creek threatened to destroy his burial site in old Mill Creek Cemetery. The raging creek also threatened the final resting place of his daughter, Lucy Harris Lael and her infant son, who were interred together.

Wynnewood Historical Society officials said five individuals – Mr. and Mrs. L.L. Shirley and Leroy DeArman, of Wynnewood; Ludie Kinney, of Oklahoma City, and Wilbur White, of Tishomingo – moved the remains of Gov. Harris, his daughter and grandson. Historical records note a coin purse with the lone 1886 dime was located in Gov. Harris' grave. The record does not mention the pipe stem.

Mrs. Lael and the remains of her son were transferred to Oaklawn Cemetery in Wynnewood. Gov. Harris' remains and his original Mill Creek headstone were relocated to Drake-Nebo Cemetery, seven miles south of Sulphur, Okla.

Wynnewood Historical Society officials Nicholas Waters, president; secretary Luann Waters, and Wynnewood author and historian Dr. Michael Lovegrove presented the items to Chickasaw Nation Executive Officer of Historic Preservation and Homeland Affairs Kirk Perry.

Mr. Perry delivered the artifacts to the Chickasaw Cultural Center's Holisso Research Center along with the deed of gift from the Wynnewood Historical Society. The items will be housed in the Chickasaw Nation collection for safekeeping and care, according to Mr. Perry.

Wynnewood Historical Society President Nicholas Waters, left, presents items of tribal historical importance to Chickasaw Nation Historic Preservation Executive Director Kirk Perry.

The artifacts are deemed associated fu-

SEE **HARRIS**, PAGE 2

Upcoming Events *continued*

GOURDget Class
April 21, 2-4 p.m.
Artesian Gallery & Studios, Sulphur
Contact: (580) 622-8042

Art of Fabric Manipulation
April 24, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Artesian Gallery & Studio, Sulphur
Contact: (580) 622-8042

Photography Made Into Artistic Graphic Designs
April 25, 1-4 p.m.
Artesian Gallery & Studios, Sulphur
Contact: (580) 622-8040

Basket Weaving Class
April 25, 1-3 p.m.
Chickasaw Council Hose Museum, Tishomingo
Contact: (580) 371-3351

The Art of Fabric Manipulation Workshop
April 25, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Artesian Gallery & Studios, Sulphur
Contact: (580) 622-8040

Silk Painting Class
April 25, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Artesian Gallery & Studios
Contact: (580) 622-8040

Corn Husk Dolls
May 2, 1-3 p.m.
Chickasaw National Capital
2nd Floor, Tishomingo

Gov. Anoatubby points to Chickasaw health care progress

NOBLE, Okla. – Governor Bill Anoatubby joined health professionals from across Oklahoma to launch the second five years of the Oklahoma Health Improvement Plan.

Healthcare leaders gathered March 10 at Noble High School to discuss progress achieved during the first five years of the program, and look at areas where there is room for improvement.

Improvements included a significant increase in the percentage of public high school students who were physically active five or more days per week, a reduction in the percentage of public high school students who are obese, a reduction in the infant mortality rate and an increase in the number of school districts working to incorporate healthy food and time for physical activity.

During the event, Gov. Anoatubby gave an address on Chickasaw Nation efforts to improve the health of its citizens.

"Preventive care is the cornerstone of health improvement," Gov. Anoatubby said. "We believe it is essential to encourage our citizens to do everything possible to prevent disease. Our goal is to offer the education, facilities and services that are needed so our citizens can lead healthy lifestyles to prevent a wide range of debilitating health problems."

Many of those efforts are in line with progress made in health improvement at the state level.

Since the Oklahoma Health Improvement Plan was developed in 2010, the Chickasaw Nation has dedicated the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center in Ada, as well as new health care clinics in Ardmore and Tishomingo.

Each of these facilities was built utilizing the U.S. Indian Health Service Joint Venture Construction Program. The program directs the tribe to fund construction of the health care facility in exchange for millions of dollars in additional annual funding from the HIS for staffing and operation over the next 20 years.

These new facilities help ensure greater access to health care for Chickasaws and other Native Americans.

Other advances made by the tribe have included the opening of the Chickasaw Nation softball complex in Ada, and renovation of a the gymnasium on the Chickasaw Nation headquarters campus.

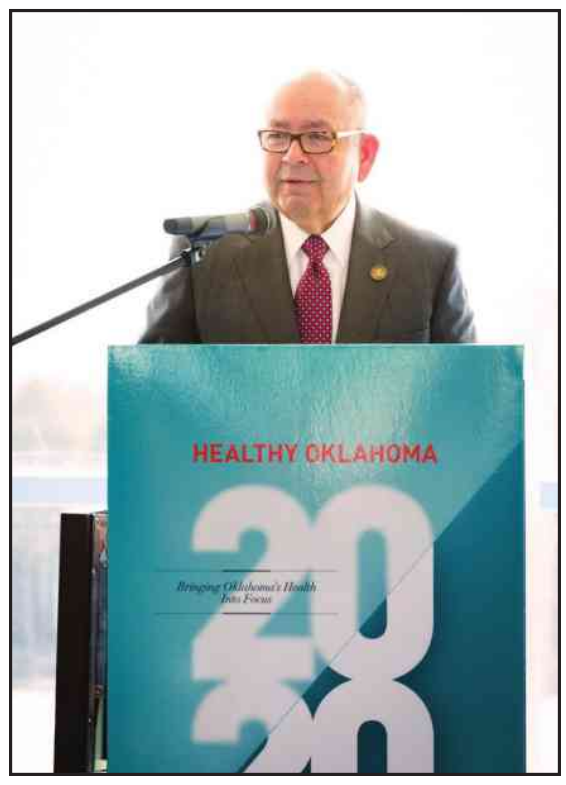
Both these facilities encourage Chickasaws to take part in physical activities. The softball complex and gymnasium offer families easier access to facilities where they can have fun taking part in sports.

Oklahoma Health Commissioner Terry Cline noted in a letter to OHIP participants that "collaboration is the key to our continued success."

Gov. Anoatubby agreed with that sentiment during his remarks.

"The mission of the Chickasaw Nation is to improve the overall quality of life of Chickasaw people," Gov. Anoatubby said. "When we are working toward that mission, we understand it is vital to work together with our friends and our neighbors to accomplish that goal.

"It is evident that Oklahoma is committed to improving the health of everyone in the state. We share that commitment at the Chickasaw Nation and I think you will find it is shared by Indian tribes all across this state. We are honored to be included within this group of individuals who are highly motivated to help improve the health of our fellow Oklahomans. Weare pleased to work alongside everyone in this room as we move forward toward the goal of helping all Oklahomans enjoy a healthier future."



Gov. Bill Anoatubby addresses Oklahoma health care leaders during a recent conference in Noble, Okla.

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.

Transportation Services honored

Chickasaw Nation Transportation Services became the first tribal transit system to be recognized with the presentation of two awards when it received the Transit Organization of the Year and Transit Director of the Year.

The awards were received February 5 during the Oklahoma Transit Association's 17th Annual Awards for Excellence ceremony. Judges cited new technology implemented to improve passenger experience; 20-year history, including federal tribal transit designation since 2008; increase in ridership; and community involvement.

The Association's awards recognize public transit systems that best symbolizes the spirit of public transit by promoting the local economy; removing barriers to isolation; and providing efficient, economical and dependable service.

Wayne Scribner, Secretary Department of Community Services; Rick Miller, Manager, Transportation Services; Angie Gilliam, Director, Transportation Services; Leta Burwell, Executive Officer, Social Services.

Chickasaw veteran honored by House

Nathaniel Thomas, a Chickasaw, was honored March 2 on the floor of the Oklahoma House of Representatives as "Veteran of the Week."

Mr. Thomas is a U.S. Navy veteran. He served during the Korean War.

Mr. Thomas is from Blanchard, Okla. His daughters, Barbara, Linda and Naomi, were present to see their father honored. He was sponsored by State Rep. Lisa J. Billy.

Thank you Mr. Thomas for your service!

Chickasaw Veteran Nathaniel Thomas, with State Rep. Lisa Billy, was honored as Veteran of the Week.

ARTS FESTIVAL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

rival" sculpture, which depicts a Chickasaw family arriving in Indian Territory during the 1830s removal from their homelands. "The Arrival" is a permanent fixture at the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur.

A variety of food vendors are scheduled to delight patrons.

The Artesian Arts Festival is free and open to everyone. More than 4,500 art enthusiasts gathered for last year's inaugural Artesian Arts Festival.

For more information about the Artesian Arts Festival, contact Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities at (580) 272-5520, by email at artistinfo@chickasaw.net, or visit http://chickasawcountry.com/events/view/artesian-arts-festival.

The Artesian Plaza is adjacent to the Artesian Hotel and Spa, 1001 W. First Street in Sulphur.

HARRIS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

nerary objects and will not be displayed publicly.

About Cyrus Harris

A businessman, interpreter, and first Governor of the Chickasaw Nation, Cyrus Harris was born August 22, 1817, in Pontotoc, Mississippi.

A descendant of James Logan Colbert, Gov. Harris attended school in Mississippi and Tennessee and returned home in 1830. In 1835, as the Chickasaws were preparing to remove to Indian Territory, Gov. Harris, who spoke English and Chickasaw fluently, served as an interpreter at a government land office established at Pontotoc.

In 1837 Gov. Harris and his mother, Elizabeth Colbert Oxbury-Gunn, left for Indian Territory and arrived at Blue River in present Johnston County, Oklahoma, in 1838. Gov. Harris moved three more times before settling at Mill Creek, where he resided until his death. He began his political career in 1850. He was twice sent as a delegate for the Chickasaw Nation to Washington.

Cyrus Harris was elected the first governor of the Chickasaw Nation in 1856, and was reelected in 1860, 1866, 1868, and 1872. In 1872 he approved the establishment of a boarding school at Wapanucka.

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.

Chickasaw Veterans Conference
will take place
May 18, 2015
WinStar World Casino & Resort
Thackerville, Oklahoma

Among other items, the conference will include a Warrior Society Luncheon and discussion, which will be open to all Chickasaw Veterans and Active Military.

Please RSVP by April 30.
For more information, call Stacy Wesberry at (580) 795-9790 or visit www.Chickasaw.net/VetConf.

This month on CNTV

Dynamic Women's Conference
Mark your calendar for the Dynamic Women of the Chickasaw Nation Conference and Forum April 16-17. CNTV will be there to cover the highlights from this gathering of remarkable women.

Human Trafficking Seminar
State and local law enforcement agencies held a seminar in Ada to educate the public about human trafficking. Learn more about this serious topic this month on CNTV.

Citizen Profile- Dixie Brewer
Chickasaw Nation citizen and employee Dixie Brewer is a master moccasin maker – a talent she learned from an elder. Watch how Ms. Brewer shares her expertise with others in this month's episode of CNTV.

….and much more! New episodes are available on the first and 15th of each month.
*Visit **www.chickasaw.tv** and click on the News channel to watch CNTV.*

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Deadline for submission is the 15th of each month prior to publication. Submissions can be mailed, faxed, hand-delivered or e-mailed.

Chickasaw resourcefulness has often defined us as a tribe

GOV. BILL ANOATUBBY

Governor, the Chickasaw Nation

Facing challenge is something everyone encounters in life. How we respond to each challenge is what sets us apart.

Chickasaws are known for meeting challenges head-on, and for being highly resourceful in overcoming obstacles and adversity.

Resourcefulness is defined as "the ability to meet and handle situations." That definition certainly applies to virtually every era of Chickasaw history!

Chickasaws have historically been highly resourceful, both individually and as a tribe. Our ancestors regularly encountered all kinds of obstacles. How they responded to those challenges is a big part of our tribal history.

We know Chickasaws were, and are, widely recognized for their warrior skills. Those skills included how to expertly utilize weaponry. But, significantly, those skills also included the ability to adapt and win. Our tribal history is full of examples of exceptional Chickasaw battle strategy.

Our ancestors understood how to properly plan each encounter to pave the best path to victory.

We were also known as accomplished traders. Chickasaws traversed the Mississippi River and its tributaries trading goods. Our ancestors were good at figuring out what the people on the other side of transactions needed, and how best to secure what fulfilled the needs of the tribe.

We all know that Removal, and the years that followed, were very challenging. Chickasaws had to adjust to new realities. Our people responded by surviving a tremendously hard environment and rebuilding the nation in new lands.

Our ancestors, as always, proved up to the task.

In today's Chickasaw Nation, we have traveled relative "light years" from those days, all the while maintaining our traditions of resourcefulness and adaptability. We have together built a successful, vibrant, caring tribe. Programs and services for Chickasaws across the country, and around the world, are helping produce improved, happy Chickasaw lives.

As Chickasaw citizens, there are so many doors open to us today. Chickasaws everywhere are building careers, families and tremendous futures for themselves and their children.

As modern Chickasaws, we have within us all that resourcefulness we inherited from previous generations. We have "the ability to meet and handle situations" - and in a very positive way!

We have all pulled together to build an outstanding tribe. Chickasaws long ago determined they were going to be winners. That determination has never waned.

Today, Chickasaw people continue to be highly resourceful and highly successful. Chickasaws understand there will be challenges along the way. The positive and pragmatic way they respond to those challenges is what has defined the Chickasaw Nation throughout its history.

Just like those Chickasaws who preceded us, we know we will face challenges, obstacles and adversity. And like our ancestors, Chickasaws will continue to be actively engaged in achieving progress.

There is much ahead to be accomplished. Together, as Chickasaws, we will meet the future with the confidence born of our forefathers. Our Chickasaw history reminds us that all things are possible with determination, perseverance and hope.

18th Annual Chikasha Ittifama (Chickasaw Reunion) is set for May 1-2 at Kullihoma

Chickasaws from across the country will gather this year for the 18th annual Chikasha Ittifama (Chickasaw Reunion), Friday and Saturday, May 1-2, at Kullihoma. The Reunion will kick off Friday, May 1 at 6 p.m. with an opening prayer, dinner, stickball and stomp dance.

All Chickasaws and guests are invited.

18th Annual Chikasha Ittifama | Chickasaw Reunion
May 1– 2

- **Friday, May 1**
- 6:00 p.m. – 6:20 p.m. Welcome & Prayer
  Honor Guard
- 6:20 p.m. – 7 p.m. Dinner & Storytelling
- 6:30 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. Domino Tournament - Council House
- 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. Social Stickball Games
- 8:45 p.m. – 10 p.m. Stomp Dance
- 10 p.m. Film -Cherokee Word for Water - Council House

- **Saturday, May 2**
- 7 a.m. – 10 a.m. Breakfast
- 7 a.m. – 9 a.m. Traditional Men's Game
- 8:30 a.m. – 8:50 a.m. Welcome & Prayer
  Honor Guard
- 8 a.m. – 10 a.m. Fishing Derby – 17 & Under
  The Chickasaw Removal Remembrance 5k & Walk
- 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Cornstalk Shoot – Ball field
- 10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Chunky Tournament
- 10:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Children's Tent
- 10:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Cultural Classes
  - o 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
  - o 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
  - o 3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
- 10:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Trail Rides
- 11:20 a.m. – 12 p.m. Loksi Race
- 12:30 p.m. – 1 p.m. Language Video – Council House
- 12 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Washer Tournament
- 12 p.m. – 12:20 p.m. Flag Retirement Ceremony
- 12:30 p.m. – 2 p.m. Traditional Meal
  History of Kullihoma
- 1:30 p.m. – 2 p.m. E-Book "C is for Chickasaw" – Council House
- 1:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. Horseshoe Tournament – Ball field
- 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. Squirrel Stick Throw Competition
- 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Youth Archery Tournament
- 3 p.m. – 4 p.m. First Encounter – Council House
- 3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. Adult Archery Tournament
- 4 p.m. – 10 p.m. Adult Stickball Tournament – Ball field
- 5:30 p.m. – 6 p.m. Martial Arts Demonstration
- 6 p.m. – 7 p.m. Dinner
  Children's Language Club Performance
- 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. Social Stickball Games
- 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Concert/Open Mic.
- 8:30 p.m. – 9 p.m. Slideshow
- 9 p.m. – 11:30 p.m. Stomp Dance
- 10:30 p.m. – 11:30 p.m. Stickball Participants Dinner

To reach the site, travel to the Kullihoma sign seven miles northeast of Ada on State Highway 1, then travel three miles east and one mile south.

For information, contact Chickasaw Nation History and Culture at (580) 436-7282.

Chickasaw teacher changing young lives each day

OKLAHOMA CITY - Chickasaw citizen Megan Key is a first-grade teacher at Frederick Douglass Moon Academy in Oklahoma City. She grew up with a determination to help people, which led her to earn a degree in human relations with a minor in social justice from the University of Oklahoma.

"In many of the studies I was taught that the different backgrounds of people around the world who have strong influences on their lives," Ms. Key said. "After realizing this, I was inspired to do something for the world. To make it a better place."

Megan Key helps students at Frederick Douglass Moon Academy in Oklahoma City.

Initially, her goal was to become a child advocate lawyer. She wanted to express her love and compassion for abused and neglected children. Her friends and family encouraged her to apply to the "Teach for America" program before applying to law school. The program recruits teachers for children in impoverished areas. She was accepted into the program in 2013 at Frederick Douglass Moon Academy.

"By joining this program, I was not only inspired to help children, but to also help people of minority races," she said.

Teach for America is a program that provides college graduates and professional people an opportunity to become teachers. Those teachers are placed in schools in need of educators.

"The goal of Teach for America is to bridge that educational gap," Ms. Key said. "We focus on the children in low-income schools who need teachers who really believe in and care for them.

"Teach for America strives for teachers who are excited and inspired to change the world and change education today."

The Frederick Douglas Moon Academy was established in 1965 and serves minority children prekindergarten through sixth grade. Ms. Key has taught at Moon for two years.

She shares a strong bond with her first grade class. She said she loved to see her children light up with excitement when they learned something new.

When Ms. Key's students are asked what they are doing in class, they will reply, "I'm trying to grow my brain." And if asked why, they will reply "So I can be whatever I want to be!"

"I tell my students that I love them every time they walk out the door and every time they walk- n the door," Ms. Key said. "I want them to know that someone loves them. If they do not have someone at home who loves them, then they need to know that their teacher loves them and that they have a school that is a nice family here."

Miss Key works to make classtime a fun and interesting experience for students.

Miss Key provides one-on-one attention to a student during a class.

Kids raise their hands to contribute during a session at Frederick Douglass Moon Acacemy.

Another inspiration for Ms. Key is her mother, Michelle Key, and grandmother, Jerrye Southward. Both are involved with the well-being of children and education. Michelle Key is Director of the Chickasaw Nation Child Development Center in Ada, Okla. Jerrye Southward is a dedicated Head Start teacher in Zaneis, Oklahoma. Ms. Key's family taught her the importance of good grades in elementary school by her family. She was a member of the Chickasaw Nation Honor Club where she received recognition and incentives for making outstanding grades.

The Chickasaw Honor Club program provides added incentives for motivated and academically successful students in grades two through 12. The participants can excel in grade incentive, perfect attendance and outstanding achievement to qualify for the Chickasaw Honor Club. For more information about the Chickasaw Honor Club, visit www.Chickasaw.net/Services or call Chickasaw Nation Honor Club (580) 421-7711.

To see more of Megan Key, visit http://www.Chickasaw.tv and type "Megan Key" in the search box at the top of the page.

The Chickasaw Nation believes that having a proper education can open many doors for opportunity and success. By offering services that support and prepares Chickasaw students on their educational path, the Chickasaw Nation is improving the overall quality of life for Chickasaw citizens.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carmen Carter, Public Affairs.

White Dog Press releases new children's book app

White Dog Press, an imprint of the Chickasaw Press, is set to release a new and innovative children's book application based on the award winning Chikasha Stories Volume One: Shared Spirit. The interactive, read-to-me book app melds the modern with the traditional through technology. The app, two years in the making, incorporates music and sound for all ages to enjoy.

"This app opens up doors to reach a new audience of readers with an interactive book experience," Chickasaw Press director Wiley Barnes said. "Even readers who know Chikasha Stories will enjoy this updated version with sound and music. We're excited about the endless opportunities that apps offer to enhance our great publications and continue to share Chickasaw history and culture in a modern way."

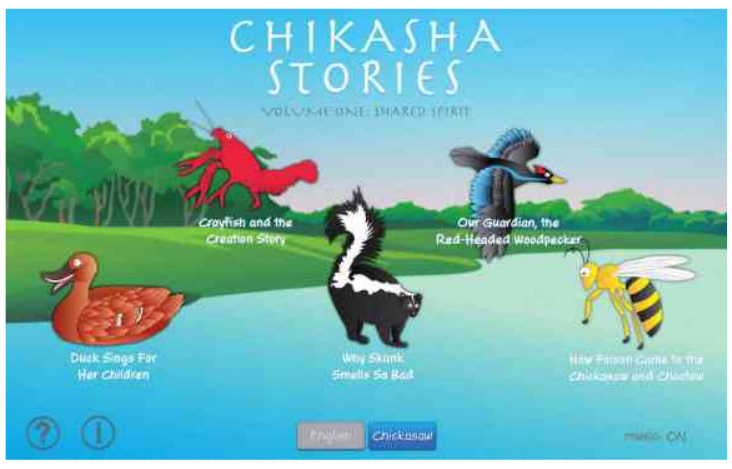
The 2012 Oklahoma Book Award winner, Chikasha Stories Volume One: Shared Stories, is a collection of stories drawn from Chickasaw oral tradition. It is the first bilingual book series published by the Chickasaw Press.

Stories are artfully told in English by premier Chickasaw storyteller and tribal elder Glenda Galvan, and in Chickasaw by JoAnn Ellis, a Department of Chickasaw Language specialist. Chickasaw Language committee member Jerry Imotichey, and Chickasaw Language director Joshua D. Hinson have also offered significant contributions. The collection serves as an introduction to the Chickasaw language, while preserving the storytelling tradition vital to Chickasaw culture. Presented as children's stories, the collection is brought to life with the whimsical and vibrant illustrations of award-winning Chickasaw artist Jeannie Barbour.

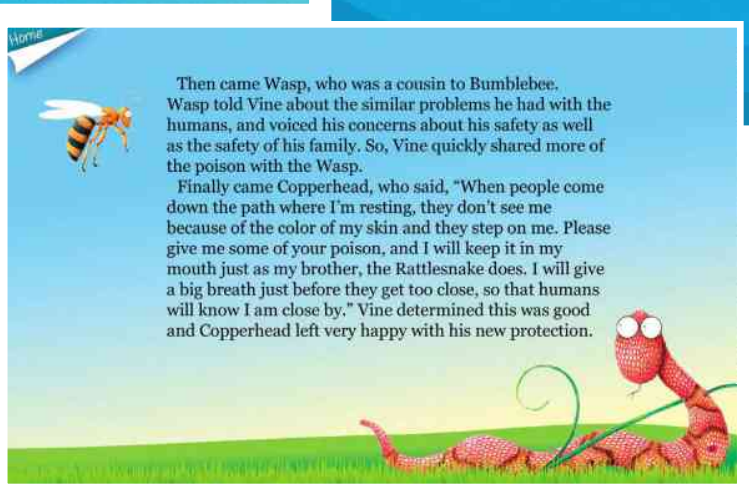
Volume One introduces the kindred spirit Chickasaw people have always shared with animals and nature. Each tale teaches important life lessons and provides an ancient Chickasaw perspective on why things in nature occur the way they do.

The highlighted narration allows users to read along with traditional stories in both English and Chickasaw with the ability to choose to listen to each story or read it themselves. Children will be able to touch images and objects to hear their names in English and Chickasaw.

"The Chikasha Stories app is a unique opportunity for people to read along with a native speaker, seeing moment by moment how a word's pronunciation aligns with its spelling," Mr. Hinson said. "This can be quite eye-opening for a learner. This intersection of language revitalization and new media is very exciting for those of us working daily to bring our language back to prominence. Media allows us to reach out to folks regardless of where they live, bringing language directly to them. It's a great time for us to attempt this and other media-based language projects."


CHIKASHA STORIES
VOLUME ONE: SHARED SPIRIT
Crayfish and the Creation Story
Our Guardian, the Red-Headed Woodpecker
Duck Sings For Her Children
Why Skunk Smells So Bad
How Poison Came to the Chickasaw and Choctaw
English
Chickasaw

Home
Yammikya nanna imponnakat okoshto' alaka lhakoffittook, Aba' Binni'laat ayokpakat Bakbak foshi' Chikashsha apiisachi atookolittook. To'wa' hooto'lihma okayga micha taloowaka Chikashshaat jholbahma.
Aattibima tashka-chipota' alhiha' áyya'shaka onacha imanoli nanna ikchokmo mintika foshiat olat wakaat albina' fashkálla'mat ahayattok.


Home
Then came Wasp, who was a cousin to Bumblebee. Wasp told Vine about the similar problems he had with the humans, and voiced his concerns about his safety as well as the safety of his family. So, Vine quickly shared more of the poison with the Wasp.
Finally came Copperhead, who said, "When people come down the path where I'm resting, they don't see me because of the color of my skin and they step on me. Please give me some of your poison, and I will keep it in my mouth just as my brother, the Rattlesnake does. I will give a big breath just before they get too close, so that humans will know I am close by." Vine determined this was good and Copperhead left very happy with his new protection.

The Chikasaw Press will host its annual Spring Book Sale April 15-16 in the Chickasaw Press building, 1315 Hoppe Blvd., Ada. A special reception will be Thursday, April 16, from 6-8 p.m. A 20 percent discount on all items sold in-store will be offered.

For more information contact Chickasaw Press at (580) 436-7282.

CONTRIBUTED BY Kristen Gill, Public Affairs.

Citizens At-Large Help Number
For information on services or help with questions, call toll-free 1-866-466-1481.

Accounting • Tax Preparation • Payroll
Milissa Nichols
(580) 223-2488 ~ *office*
(580) 504-4627 ~ *mobile*
Nichols Accounting Service
milissanichols@sbcglobal.net

zija
Nutritionals/Weight Management/Skin Care
ameo
Essential Oils/Air Therapy
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Independent Distributors
931-397-2303
healthy2morrow@yahoo.com
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www.ryanlacy.myameo.com
www.ryanlacy.myripstix.com

Chickasaw curator of Jewish museum finds tribal connections

Dr. Karen York is a Chickasaw citizen born in Wichita, Kansas, and grew up in Tulsa. She has been drawing and painting since childhood, following the path of her mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, all accomplished artists. They taught her to draw, paint, sew, embroider, bead and engage in other forms of artistic expression.

As she grew, Dr. York put away visual art and enjoyed a successful career in entertainment management. Her love of art, however, kept calling. At age 36, she entered Texas Woman's University at Denton where she earned a fine arts degree, majoring in jewelry and metals and minoring in art history. Her art education included a semester in Paris, where she studied under a Louvre Museum curator. She then searched American universities to find what she considered the best doctorate degree in art museum curatorship available. She found her match at the University of Indiana-Bloomington.

Chickasaw citizen Karen York, Ph.D., curator of the Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art in Tulsa, describes a featured sculpture in the Native American exhibit currently on display at the museum.

She served as an assistant curator at sites in Indiana after earning her Ph.D. An art museum opening in Alabama interested her, but after only a few years there, she saw an ad for a curator at a museum in Tulsa, which represented the opportunity to return home, where her mother still lived.

Dr. Karen York, Ph.D., curator of the Sherwin Miller Museum of Jewish Art in Tulsa, and Charles Taylor, museum Preparator, inspect a new piece of art for preparation needs prior to its display.

When she became curator of the Sherman Miller Museum of Jewish Art in south Tulsa, she found an excellent art collection, but nearly total disorganization. She spent much of her first months' time putting the artworks in order and arranging proper storage. Museum records also had to be organized and completed. Telling the Jewish story through art is what Ms. York believed to be the museum's purpose. It became the standard against which each piece of art or historic memorabilia was judged.

"We're telling about Jewish life, their history, milestones, literature, philosophy, art, customs, food, holidays, clothing, jewelry, religion – everything that makes them a unique people – and we're gathering their stories," Dr. York said.

She also realized the obvious relationship between the Jewish tribes and the American Indians of Oklahoma.

"The displacement, forced eviction, migration, living in a designated place, assimilation into the dominant society - the parallels are plain to see," she said.

Dr. York began talks with various Oklahoma tribal leaders about a potential artistic exhibit of Native American works. Such a show would allow museum visitors from all walks of life to experience how Jews and Indians shared a common bond.

An exhibit of Native American art was born and is now on exhibit at the museum on the Zarrow Campus, 2021 East 71st Street in Tulsa.

Dr. York has served the Sherwin Miller Museum for the past nine years.

"I am a proud Chickasaw, and I'm proud to be able to present the similarity of the Native American experience to that of the Jewish people, and theirs to ours," she said.

CONTRIBUTED BY Tom Bailey, Public Affairs.

Gov. Anoatubby honored by Ada Area Chamber of Commerce with Ted Savage Lifetime Achievement Award

ADA, Okla. – Gov. Bill Anoatubby was honored by the Ada Area Chamber of Commerce during the organization's annual banquet February 12.

The Ted Savage Lifetime Achievement Award is named for the late Ted Savage, a longtime Chamber executive and prolific Ada supporter.

Gov. Anoatubby is the inaugural recipient of the award. The Governor was recognized for "his tenacity, his vision, his love for Ada, Oklahoma, and his love for the Chickasaw people. Much like Ted Savage, Governor Anoatubby is known for his quiet leadership and his humble nature. We thank Governor Anoatubby for his leadership in our community."

Molly Shi Boren presented the award to Gov. Anoatubby. Mrs. Boren was the first woman elected to the Ada Area Chamber board of directors during Mr. Savage's tenure.

Mr. Savage was the Ada Area Chamber of Commerce from 1956-1984, giving his heart and soul to making Ada a wonderful place. He was a World War II veteran, a family man and a keen promoter of the city. He died 2014.

The banquet was hosted at the Chickasaw Business and Conference Center on the campus of East Central University. The theme of the banquet was "My Heart Belongs In Ada."

Military care packages

The Chickasaw Nation distributes military care packages to service personnel stationed away from their permanent residences.

The military care package distribution list is made up of Chickasaws, spouses of Chickasaws, Chickasaw Nation employees, spouses of employees and children of employees on active duty and stationed away from their permanent residences.

If you know men or women who fit the criteria and would like to add them to the military care package list, **please contact Lauren Osborne at (580) 310-6451 or lauren.osborne@chickasaw.net.**

Thank you for your assistance and for supporting our troops!

Medical transportation top priority for Chickasaw Nation

Robert Brown, of Allen, Okla., is one of many Indian people who use public transportation provided by the Chickasaw Nation. Mr. Brown, who lives more than 20 miles from the Chickasaw Medical Center, requires life-saving medical treatments three times a week.

"If it wasn't for them (Chickasaw Nation), I wouldn't be able to make it to my treatments," Mr. Brown said. "The rides are very important. If it wasn't for them I don't know what I would do."

The Chickasaw Nation Transportation Services continues to grow. By the end of the year, two additional shuttle buses and 5 passenger handicap accessible mini-vans will be purchased to keep up with the demand of public transportation.

For more than 20 years, the Chickasaw Nation has offered safe, reliable transportation to residents who live within its boundaries. As the tribe has grown, so have the services and features of public transportation it offers. Today, rides are available to those in need of non-emergency medical services, medication drop-offs and work transportation.

"Transportation services provided by the Chickasaw Nation grow every year. We have expanded our services, routes and equipment," transportation manager Rick Miller said. "Medical transportation is always our number-one priority, but we have added services to get people back and forth to work."

Medical transportation includes rides to and from the Chickasaw Medical Center. For those needing to see a medical specialist, or who require unique treatments, rides are also provided to hospitals and clinics in Oklahoma City.

According to Mr. Brown, transportation services offered by the Chickasaw Nation are easy to set up and use.

"If I ever have an unexpected appointment, I call and let them know to add to my existing appointments. It's easy," Mr. Brown said. "The drivers are really good about showing up on time and the bus is easy to get in and out of."

Although not paramedics, the Chickasaw Nation drivers do receive CPR/first aid training due to the nature of their work. They are also trained to safely operate the on-board wheelchair lift and safety equipment, and they receive customer service training to meet the needs of riders.

"The drivers are good," Mr. Brown said. "They show up on time. They are respectful and courteous, easy to get along with. They listen if I need something. Sometimes, they just listen when I have something to say."

Transportation services also delivers medications to Chickasaw area offices for convenient pickup by citizens.

"Many of our citizens have chronic conditions where medications are needed and live far from our clinics or pharmacies," Mr. Miller said. "Our drivers deliver medications to area offices for them. Once there, they are picked up by the patient."

Road to work reflects tribal growth

The town of Sulphur, Oklahoma, has experienced major economic growth during the last five years. The tribe opened the Chickasaw Cultural Center, Artesian Hotel and Casino, and Chickasaw Retreat and Conference Center, providing hundreds of jobs to the workforce of surrounding communities within the Chickasaw Nation.

To offset transportation costs and wear and tear on employee vehicles, the Chickasaw Nation introduced a "Park and Ride" service in Ada and Tishomingo. The service provides a low-cost, reliable and safe way to get back and forth to work in locations in Sulphur.

Shuttle fare is $1 one-way for Chickasaw citizens and $2 one-way for non-Chickasaws. Optional punch cards are available for purchase that allows riders to receive one week's worth of round-trips free with the purchase of three weeks in advance.

According to mother and daughter Kisha Frazier and Alethia Martin, who travel the estimated 100-mile roundtrip commute daily from Ada to the Chickasaw Retreat and Conference Center, the park and ride gives them peace of mind during the winter months.

"It is relaxing to be able to let someone else drive when the roads are snowy and icy," Ms. Frazier said. "In the mornings, I am able to sit back and collect my thoughts, and then unwind for an hour after my shift during the ride home. I don't think I have ever worked for a company that has worked with me on my schedule based on my ride."

"We have to get to the pick-up location by 8 in the morning in Ada," Ms. Martin added. "That drive is not hard because we use well-traveled roads close to home. I can't remember a time I was late because of the park and ride service."

In the past three years of driving the route between Ada and Sulphur, the transit bus has only been late three days due to mechanical problems or inclement weather.

"We are proud of our performance. Our team works hard," Mr. Miller said. "Our drivers complete a mechanical and safety checklist every morning, and our fleet has a scheduled maintenance program. We strive to get our riders where they need to go safely and on time."

Robert Brown, of Allen, Okla., receives transportation three times a week for life-saving medical treatments at the Chickasaw Medical Center in Ada, Okla. According to driver Tino McFerran, passengers and drivers build relationships and friendships over the years.

Transportation services offered by the tribe also allow for individual shuttles to and from work, depending on availability of buses and schedule for the day. According to Mr. Miller, routing is based on census data and the need for public transportation.

"It is like a puzzle," he said. "We need to fit all the pieces together with the clients and drivers. We use our best estimates where our drivers will be and at what time. We have some of the best routing software available, but it is still a daunting task."

The fleet and services provided by the Chickasaw Nation continue to grow. By the end of the year, an additional two shuttle buses and five-passenger handicap accessible mini-vans will be purchased. This will include a large shuttle able to accommodate 30 passengers with 4-wheel drive for slick weather conditions.

The buses and vans will include state-of-the-art maintenance and safety technology. Computers within the vehicles will communicate mechanical problems to drivers and managers, track speed and exact location of vehicles and be equipped with on-board tablets with routing and destination instructions.

For more information, contact the Ada transportation office at (800) 492-2115.

CONTRIBUTED BY K.C. Cole, Public Affairs.

Dougie Johnston, granddaughter of Gov. Johnston, celebrates 101st

Chukma and greetings from Legislator Mary Jo Green, Seat 5, Pontotoc District. February was full of snow, sleet and ice which had the offices in Ada closed several days. This had the overall effect of making the month go by very quickly. It was an odd month.

Because of the ice and snow, some of us missed the JOM conference at the Hard Rock Hotel in Tulsa. Disappointing as I look forward to the conference each year. We were able to attend the Oklahoma City Community Council meeting and met a few new senior members. The meeting had an informative speaker and a wonderful meal provided by the Council members. We also attended the meeting in Newcastle and they have lots of new participants.

MARY JO GREEN

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

In our committee meeting, we were told that a new USDA grant is providing sack lunches for children who have appointments at the Medical Center. The meal is intended to provide good nutrition to help prevent childhood hunger and provide them with helpings of fruit and vegetables. Five counties are included in the grant.

A groundbreaking will take place in April for the expansion of the clinic in Purcell. There will be a six-week training for anyone wanting to learn child care for future employment at Head Start. On March 26 - 28, a robotics competition will be held in Norman. We usually do well in robotics. The deadline for applying for the NASA summer camp is April 15. Vocational Rehabilitation has received a grant for Chickasaws with autism. Contact Michelle Key and Danny Wells at Education for more information. Please help spread the word about this grant to others who are on or have children on the autism spectrum.

Mary Jo Green with Dougie Johnston.

A few months ago, I told you about Dougie Johnston, the granddaughter of former Governor Douglas Johnston. Dougie spent many years in Morocco. Anyway, she has changed her address from the Sterling House to Ballard's Nursing Home here in Ada. Katie Case, Glenda Galvan and I visited her on her 101st birthday to congratulate her. I'm sharing as picture of Dougie and me on that special day.

Chi ihullo li! I would love to hear from you. My email address is mary.green@chickasaw.net and my address and telephone number are listed elsewhere in this and every issue of *the Chickasaw Times* and on the Chickasaw Nation web site. Until next time, I wish God's blessings on all of our people. Thank you. Chipisala'cho!

Please join us for this year's Dynamic Women's Conference in Sulphur!

Chokma, Chinchokma, Hello, how are you?

Ladies, it's that time again! Time for the Dynamic Women's Conference and Forum! Every year the conference gets better. The Dynamic Women's Conference has become the premier women's conference in southern Oklahoma. Every year the conference gets bigger and better than the one before. In fact, this year's conference has expanded to two days, April 16 and 17, and is packed with wonderful Chickasaw speakers, who have each made a mark in their chosen fields. The presenters for the conference will be Janie Hipp from the University of Arkansas School of Law, the Director of the Indigenous Food and Agriculture Initiative; Johnna Payne-Hurt, the Director of Standing Our Ground for Children from the Indian Child Welfare Association; Dr. Lynne Hindman from Oregon State University, who is the Research Coordinator for the Center for Teaching and Learning; and Natasha Wagner, who is a talented Chickasaw artist. Those are just some of the speakers for the first day of the conference.

NANCY ELLIOTT

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

On Friday, April 17, we will be treated to the Next Generation, where young Chickasaw women will be featured. Ryanne Jordan, Fashion Designer from the Chickasaw Arts Academy, and Kayleea Arnett, Champion Diver, will both share their perspective on what it takes to become a dynamic woman of the Chickasaw Nation. Finally, a panel of dynamic Chickasaw women will share their own secrets of success. Jeraldine Brown, Cherished Elder, Janie Hipp, Director, Indigenous Food and Agriculture, Dr. Amanda Cobb-Greetham, Director, Native American Studies at the University of Oklahoma, and Dr. Karen Goodnight, Moderator and Dynamic Woman of the Year for 2014, will all participate in this year's panel discussion. The Dynamic Women's Conference will again be at our beautiful Artesian Hotel and Spa in Sulphur. So plan to stay the night and enjoy the luxury of the hotel and spa. The second day of the conference will take place at the Chickasaw Cultural Center beginning at 9 a.m. The Dynamic Women's Conference and Forum has a tradition of being one of the most popular and successful events of the year, so you don't want to miss it. Hope to see you there! Pre-registration is encouraged. For more information, you may contact the Division of Arts and Humanities at (580) 272-5520. Don't forget to let me know if I can help you in anyway.

Chipisala' cho anowa, Until I see you again,
Nancy, Pontotoc District Seat 2
Nancy.Elliott@Chickasaw.net, 580-399-4374

Lots of major improvements upcoming for Tishomingo facilities

Chokma!

Greetings from the Tishomingo District!

During the past few years, we have watched many new developments spring to life in the Tishomingo District, including the Artesian Hotel and Spa, the Chickasaw Visitor and Welcome Center and Chickasaw Cultural Center.

We are proud of these new facilities which help us share our culture and heritage and also contribute to our Nation's success and self-governance. With business ventures, we are able to provide health care, education, housing, elder and child care services and so much more to Chickasaw citizens.

TIM COLBERT

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

We have also witnessed the opening of a new, expanded Tishomingo Clinic to provide and deliver quality health care to our citizens and our Native American community members.

I am proud to say the enhancements to the Tishomingo area are not complete. Many more are planned.

Working alongside Gov. Anoatubby's mission, legislators recently passed resolutions to build a new Tishomingo Head Start building, Tishomingo Senior Center, Tishomingo Community Center and remodel the former Tishomingo Clinic. The former clinic will be renovated to accommodate the Tishomingo Area Office and our youth club.

All these projects touch Chickasaws of all ages and walks of life, from pre-school to elders. Each facility will provide an important service, from health and wellness programs to education and community comradery.

These facilities will be located on the Tishomingo campus, adjacent to the new Tishomingo Clinic and Wellness Center, which will provide better access and convenience for our citizens who live and work in our historic Capitol city.

It will be exciting to watch the progress on these projects, as well as others planned throughout the Chickasaw Nation and beyond.

With Gov. Anoatubby's leadership, we have accomplished many projects and established a multitude of services to enhance the lives of all of our citizens.

We can all be proud of all the accomplishments, enormous strides and progress we have made.

I am so very proud and honored to have played a very small part in the progress of our Nation.

We are in a good place. Our government is stronger than it's ever been. We employee more than 13,000 people worldwide, providing vital economic development and contributing to a strong economy not only to our home, Oklahoma, but all around the world.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your representative on the Chickasaw legislature.

It is truly an honor and a privilege.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Tim Colbert
Tim.Colbert@chickasaw.net, (580) 421-7242

Take advantage of your tribe's education opportunities today!

COMMITTED TO EDUCATION!

The Chickasaw Nation is committed to educating our citizens. Whether you are a graduating high school senior or an older adult looking to finish that college degree we have assistance to help you. The first step in this process would be to access www.chickasaw.net

DAVID WOERZ

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Click on the SERVICES tab and search for Higher Education. This will bring you to our Higher Education Grants, Scholarships and Incentives web page. This is your portal to accessing funding and assistance for the programs that are available to you. Each Grant, Scholarship, Incentive and Assistance program will have its own set of requirements so be sure to follow the forms closely. Some of the following are:

Higher Education Grant, General Scholarship Program, Text Book Grant, Clothing Scholarship, Laptop Scholarship Program, Graduate Stole Program, License and Certification Fee Assistance, Degree Completion Incentive, College Level Examination Program (CLEP), ACT/SAT Services, Graduate Assistance Program and many more.

Application Deadlines are very important to keep up with so here they are:

Fall Semester, September 1
Spring Semester, February 1
Summer Semester, June 15

We also have a STUDENT HANDBOOK that you can download from the link above and it will help you navigate the process.

As good old Benjamin Franklin said "Don't put off until tomorrow what you can do today."

The Chickasaw Nation is here to make your future a brighter one and education is a key to achieving that goal.

God Bless,
David Woerz

When you register to vote, you honor the efforts of Chickasaw ancestors

Chuckma, I hope all my fellow Chickasaws are doing well.

I have noticed in the last few years when I have been at Chickasaw councils and just generally speaking with Chickasaw people that we have numerous citizens that are unregistered voters. Most of these unregistered voters are our younger generation. They need to be encouraged by our older generation to register. The younger generation need to realize that their vote is an expression of their opinion.

SCOTT WOOD

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

From 1906 to 1970 the United States Government controlled the election process with the Chickasaw Nation. During that 1906-1970 timeframe the federal government controlled tribal budgets and assets. There were no elected officials during this time, they were only appointed by the President of the United States. All rights of tribal members were dissolved. The Chickasaw Nation continued to petition the United States Government for our voting rights that we have today. It was not until 1971 that those rights were restored to Chickasaw people through the persistence of our ancestors. Finally, after more than half a century of suppression, Chickasaw citizens were allowed to elect their own government officials.

Our former leaders of the Chickasaw Nation during this time struggled with the federal government to ensure our rights to vote. This is why I suggest that we do not let their efforts go in vain. Remember to register and vote. Our ancestors have sacrificed dearly for us to have these rights.

Any Chickasaw citizen that is 18 years of age or older can become a voter. It is a simple process to register to vote. Registration can be done online, by email or calling the election office.

Contact Info:
Chickasaw Nation Election Office
Phone: (580) 310-6411
Toll Free: (888) 661-0137

Remember, exercise your right to vote! Be proud to be Chickasaw and have this privilege.

Chipisala cho anowa, (Until I see you again)
Scott Wood
Tishomingo District Seat 1
Scott.wood@chickasaw.net, (580) 221-1430

Education Department continually seeking to improve program offerings

Chukma from the Pickens District! As chair of the Education Committee, I am excited to provide you with some updates from our Education Department. We are very fortunate to have Danny Wells on staff as the Executive Officer of Education. His many years of experience in teaching along with his dedication and passion for helping others have proved very valuable to our tribe.

SHANA HAMMOND

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Each summer, our Native Explorers program is offered to children ages six to 18, offering them hands-on experience with earth science, natural science, biomedical science and medicine. This summer, we will offer, for the first time, a Homeland Expedition through our Native Explorers program for college-age students. This will be a 2-3 week expedition to our Homelands. This will be a wonderful opportunity for our college-aged students studying in the field of science.

Our Education Department is continuously looking or ways to expand our programs to meet the needs of our citizens. They recently received two grants that will help them fulfill this mission. The Autism Speaks grant will allow us to promote local services and provide support to autistic children. Autism Speaks is the world's leading autism science and advocacy organization. They are dedicated to funding research into the causes, prevention, treatments and a cure for autism.

The second grant we received is a grant for our vocational rehabilitation students. It was received from the University of Massachusetts in Boston and is designed to enhance our current program. Our vocational rehabilitation program assists people with disabilities to enter or return to suitable employment.

Another step we have taken to ensure success for not only Chickasaws, but all American Indians, is a partnership with Oklahoma State University. The OSU/A&M Board of Regents recently approved the creation of the Oklahoma State University Center for Sovereign Nation Engagement and Partnerships. The goal of the center will be to ensure that sovereignty of American Indian tribes is respected and recognized; increase the number of American Indian graduates from OSU and increase the number and quality of partnerships between OSU and Sovereign Tribal Nations. The Chickasaw Nation is the first tribe to partner with the university.

If you are wise and understand God's ways, prove it by living an honorable life, doing good works with the humility that comes from wisdom. ~James 3:13

New Violence Prevention Center, Recovery Center to become realities

Chokma,

I hope all is well with you and your family.

I recently attended the Southern California Chickasaw Community Council Meeting in Fontana. I had a great time visiting with everyone. When a group of Chickasaws get together, there is guaranteed to be lots of stories, laughter and of course food! Angela Black, Services At-Large Tribal Health Outreach Coordinator, was the special speaker and shared information about programs available including the Medical Assistance, Eyeglasses, Health Spending Account (HSA), and Prescription Mail Order. These programs are making a big impact in Chickasaw lives all across the country.

TOBY PERKINS

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

In Legislative session, there were two resolutions I would like to highlight. The first one is a new Violence Prevention Center. I found this statistic shocking, American Indian women are 3.5 times more likely to be victims of domestic violence and sexual assault than the general population. The current facility is often at full capacity, which is five women or three families depending on the number of children. The new center will have 12 sleeping rooms with bathrooms, a common living area, kitchen/dining area, laundry, and library/computer area. On-site staff will offer counseling and other services to assist women and their children in their time of need.

The second resolution is a new 13,500 square-foot Women's Recovery Center, which will provide a safe and secure environment for women and their children to be cared for throughout the process of recovering from substance abuse/dependency. We constantly focus on our mission, to improve the quality of life of our Chickasaw citizens. These projects will have a huge effect on the healing and strengthening of individual lives and the community as a whole.

Editor's Note: The following article by Mr. Perikins was inadvertently omitted from the March Times. It appears in its entirety below.

Chokma,

I hope all is well with you and your family.

At the most recent Oklahoma City Community council meeting, Chickasaw Hall of Fame inductee Margaret Roach Wheeler visited with us about her company, Mahota Handwovens (www.margaretroachwheeler.com), and presented some of her beautiful textile work. Margaret talked about the recent construction of her home in Sulphur, inspired by the ceremonial mound structures found in our native homelands. She also informed us of her creative process while collaborating as costume and set designer on the production Lowak Shoppala', receiving inspiration from research gathered on trips to the Smithsonian and British Museum. She is an amazing artist and generous with her time in teaching others her craft!

Spring is a time for growth and renewal and there are several resolutions in Legislative Session this month that will expand the programs and services for our Chickasaw people. Four resolutions advance the Tishomingo campus; a new Senior Center, Head Start facility, Community Center, and the renovation of the former Tishomingo Clinic that will support the growth of the Area Office, Youth Club and Maintenance Department. Two resolutions improve the Purcell campus with a new Area Office that will also include a community center area for events, and a Wellness Center that will provide opportunities for Chickasaws to engage in a healthy lifestyle. Exciting progress!

I would like recognize Doretta Scott Sellers for her achievement of 30 years of service to the Chickasaw Nation. It is a pleasure working with her in the Legislative office and I appreciate all she does.

I would love to hear from you. Please contact me with your concerns, needs or questions. I am here to help.

May God bless you and your family.

Toby Perkins, Legislator - Pontotoc District, Seat 1

(580) 399-2606, toby.perkins@chickasaw.net

Trip to Phoenix offers opportunity to experience service dog program

In February several Legislators attended a Chickasaw Community picnic in Phoenix, Arizona. While there I met Paula Gruntmeir and her daughter, Megan. They had a young golden retriever, Trevor, with them and he was wearing a "practice vest". Megan shared with me that Trevor was in training to be a service dog. The Foundation for Service Dog Support was a program offered at her school. She decided to apply to the program and was accepted. In October of 2014, Megan brought 13 week old, Trevor home to begin his training. He will be in training until his graduation ceremony in May of 2016! At that time his yellow "practice vest" will be replaced with his official certified Support Dog blue service vest and he will meet his life time owner. Megan takes Trevor to school with her daily and any other places that dogs are allowed. Currently, he is not admitted into businesses that allow support dogs until he passes his Pat Test and Canine Good Citizen Test. Those test will be in April. Good luck Trevor!

Paula and Megan Gruntmeir, with dog in training,Trevor, from Arizona.

BETH ALEXANDER

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Megan attends Arizona Agribusiness and Equine Center Estrella Mountain School and after graduation, she plans to attend Oklahoma State University. Currently, she is involved in FFA, on the livestock judging team, does dairy evaluation and is busy showing her pigs and cattle. Megan enjoys riding horses when time allows. Her parents are Paula Gruntmeir and Steve Gruntmeir. Grandparents: Paul Grellner, Louise Gruntmeir and Chickasaw grandmother, Caroline Sue Collins Hubber. Ms. Hubber's father, Roy Collins, was the original enrollee. I have Collins in my ancestry, wonder if we could be distantly related?

Last year The Chickasaw Nation held a Community Dinner at Remington Park (horseracing facility located in OKC). Many citizens were there from Oklahoma City and surrounding areas. While there I met Louis and Oleta Muntz. They were excited to attend and had thoroughly enjoyed the event. Oleta shared with me that they had a two tribe marriage! Louis was Chickasaw and his lovely bride was Choctaw. As they were preparing to leave, Louis said he was escorting his "date" home. One unique thing about this couple- Louis was 90 and Oleta was 99 at the time. I took their picture and said I would send them a copy. The pictures came back and were marked, "return to sender, address unknown". The returned envelope is still sitting on the corner of my desk…. Wish I would have had more time to visit with them that evening. Please contact me if you know the rest of their story!

Oleta and Louis Muntz from Oklahoma City.

I need to make a correction. In my February article, one of the pictures I shared with you was misidentified. The man standing in front of a log cabin in Kemp, IT was Mr. Bill Marcoum, not Mr. Isaac Newton Little.

Be devoted to one another in brotherly love; give preference to one another in honor; not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer.

Romans 12:10-12

A little innovation leads to solution to continuing wild hog problem

Hello Everyone,

Last month, I mentioned that one of my most important responsibilities is the care of our home place, my grandfather's allotted land.

Our home place is a tangible link to our family's past and is part of our future. It includes our family cemetery and homes of family members. It is a peaceful place where the wind through the trees and the noises made by birds are the prevailing sounds, and it is sacred to us.

KATIE CASE

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

Recently, wild hogs have assaulted the place. A few years ago, we discovered a 25-square-yard patch of what appeared to be roughly plowed ground. Also, the bottom of the cemetery fence had been rooted up in places.

Examination of the tracks left and the remnants of consumed acorns from the big oak trees above indicated the presence of wild hogs.

The hogs seemed to move through, however, and not stay.

All that changed last fall when we discovered large portions of pasture rooted and plowed up to the point that the uneven ground was a danger to livestock and a hazard to the use of farm implements. The necks of ponds became wallows, the water got murky and new damage appeared almost daily..

The damage to the land and the fact that some of the graves in the cemetery are old and without cement vaults, required action to get rid of the feral hogs.

We tried trapping with small metal cages and hunting/shooting the pigs.

Because we were just killing or trapping one at a time, we were not reducing the numbers of hogs. They reproduce too fast. An adult sow can have up to three litters of piglets per year! So, we found a trapping method that allows us to catch a whole group of hogs at one time.

We build a 36' round pen of 5' tall, wire horse panels that have just 2"X4" openings so that the little pigs can't get out. We place T-posts every 4' around the trap to support the panels because the hogs are so powerful they would tear down the trap otherwise.

The jewel of the trap is a suspended gate that can be dropped by a text to a motion-sensitive game camera just outside the fence to monitor the trap, texting pictures of hogs in the trap to a cell phone.

We bait the trap with corn, wait until all the pigs come in and then text the camera to drop the gate!

We caught the hogs on our place. There were 11, and they came in all sizes from 250lb adults to 20lb piglets. They are vicious animals; charging, snarling, frothing at the mouth and biting the fence that separates you from them. Even the little ones will try to chew your feet off at the ankle!

Captured image of wild hogs.

We are now catching them for neighbors. The good news is that they are gone for now. The bad news is wild hogs seem to be everywhere and proliferating.

Respectfully, Katie

No time like the present for students to apply for education scholarships

Chukma! Chin Chukma to all my friends in the great Chickasaw Nation.

Chickasaw students across the country, just like all students, are looking forward to the summer break. Spring Break is behind them, and now they have six to eight weeks to go to finish out the Spring semester.

We want our students to have a great summer. We also want them to be aware that now is a good time to be applying for scholarships and grants for the Fall semester and beyond.

DEAN MCMANUS

Chickasaw Tribal Legislature

There are many scholarship opportunities available through the Chickasaw Nation Department of Education. Summer scholarship applications have a deadline of June 15, and fall's have a Sept. 1 application deadline. Whichever you choose, right now is a good time to go online at www.chickasaw.net, complete the application and submit it to the Department.

You may be attending a traditional four-year college or university, or you may be at a junior college or other two-year school. You might be engaged in an educational program to qualify for a trade, or you may be at a vocational or other training institution.

Whatever your choice, there are options for you through the Department of Education. Your tribe is dedicated to your education. The Chickasaw Nation has historically been a very strong "education tribe," and that tradition continues today.

We are very interested in you making a better life for yourself and for your family. A good education is a wonderful foundation! Please check out the Department of Education scholarships today.

It is also important to note that he nonprofit Chickasaw Foundation also offers a wide array of scholarships. Most of these scholarships are for traditional college disciplines, but there are also some scholarships available in other areas.

Go to www.chickasawfoundation.org to find out more about Foundation scholarships. You've got so much to offer, and your tribe wants to help. Don't delay! Fill out your application today!

Please visit with me at dean.mcmanus@chickasaw.net or call me at (580)436-1460.

Chi ihullo li! (I love you!)

Dean McManus, Pontotoc District Seat 4

Education investment remains key component

FINANCIAL REPORT

The tribal government caption includes the tribe's general fund and BIA trust funds. The Chickasaw Businesses include all of the businesses and operations of the Division of Commerce. Not included in the financial statements are federally or state funded programs and/or grants and the financial statements of Bank 2 and Chickasaw Nation Industries, Inc.

The growing needs of the businesses are taken into account when determining the transfers from the businesses to the general fund. It is vital to the long range mission of the Chickasaw Nation that the businesses continue to grow and diversify.

Revenues of tribal government, other than the transfer from businesses, include motor fuel settlement funds and investment income. Chickasaw Business revenues include gaming revenues net of prizes and other sales revenues from convenience stores, travel plazas, tobacco stores, other tribal businesses as well as rental and investment income.

Tribal expenditures are classified by function. General government includes the maintenance and operations of tribal property, the Chickasaw Times and Governor's and Lt. Governor's offices. Expenditures for education include education scholarships as well as the tribe's division of education. Health expenditures include eye glasses, hearing aids, prescription drugs, wellness center, community health clinics, catastrophic medical assistance and other similar programs not covered by federal programs or grants.

The businesses' expenditures are classified as to expenses associated with gaming operation of the tribe and the other businesses of the tribe.

Executive Summary of the Financial Statements of the period ending February 28, 2015

Tribal Government - Revenues and transfers from the businesses for operations and fixed assets totaled $12.4 million for the month and $69.59 million year-to-date. Expenditures were $12.68 million for the month and $56.74 million year-to-date.

Chickasaw Businesses - Revenue net of gaming prizes through February totaled $546.04 million. Net income before the transfers to the Tribal Government was $128,482,992 million year-to-date. The net income includes all revenue, including amounts reserved for business growth and expansion.

Statement of Net Assets - At February 28, 2015, the tribal government funds had $285.0 million in cash and investments. Of this amount, $22.06 million is in the BIA Trust funds. This total does not include any federal program funds.

The businesses had $223.39 million in cash and investments which is reserved for accounts payable and business operations.

As of February 28, 2015, tribal operations, excluding federal program funding, had net assets of $2.01 billion.

Chickasaw Nation
Tribal Operations
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
For the Five Months Ended February 28, 2015

		Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Revenues	$	6,251,866	546,042,327	552,294,193
Transfers from businesses to tribal government		69,588,263	(69,588,263)	-
Total funds available		75,840,129	476,454,064	552,294,193
Expenditures				
General government		3,242,762		3,242,762
Legislature		1,239,472	-	1,239,472
Judiciary		481,304	-	481,304
Education		11,055,148	-	11,055,148
Heritage Preservation		8,607,508	-	8,607,508
Health		8,029,167	-	8,029,167
Youth Services		1,779,277	-	1,779,277
Family Services		4,764,688	-	4,764,688
Nutrition Programs		2,877,142	-	2,877,142
Regulatory		4,463,694	-	4,463,694
Assistance Programs		10,204,730	-	10,204,730
Gaming expense		-	311,742,117	311,742,117
Other businesses' expense		-	105,817,218	105,817,218
Total expenditures		56,744,893	417,559,335	474,304,228
Increase in net assets		19,095,236	58,894,729	77,989,965
Beginning net assets		743,003,190	1,187,670,226	1,930,673,416
Ending net assets	$	762,098,426	1,246,564,954	2,008,663,380

Chickasaw Nation
Tribal Operations
Statement of Net Assets
February 28,2015

		Tribal Government	Chickasaw Businesses	Total
Cash and Investments	$	285,009,362	223,394,263	508,403,625
Receivables		19,769,521	95,263,701	115,033,222
Inventory		129,408	8,342,015	8,471,423
Prepaid expenses		-	22,079,709	22,079,709
Other Assets		-	1,078,138	1,078,138
Fixed assets		459,730,235	1,025,311,137	1,485,041,372
Less payables		(2,540,101)	(128,904,009)	(131,444,110)
Net Assets	$	762,098,426	1,246,564,954	2,008,663,380

Congratulations

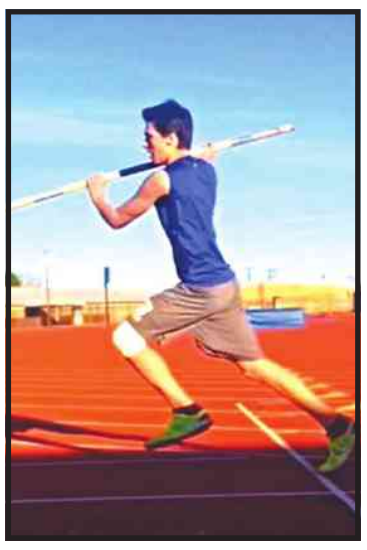
Chickasaw citizen Lola Gene Boutelle, an eighth grader at H.B. Lee Middle School in Portland, Ore., has been named an Oregon State Finalist for the National American Miss Pageant. The Pageant will be May 25 at the Doubletree Hotel in Portland.

She is currently active with the Woodland Elementary PTA as a volunteer, as well as Reynolds School District Title VII committee and planning.

Her short-term goals are to enter high school a credit ahead. She plans on taking college classes her sophomore and junior years so she may graduate her junior year, class of 2018.

Long term, Lola would like to work with children. She has not decided if it will be in the medical or legal area.

She is the daughter of Chickasaw, Joseph "Jojo" Boutelle, and Lynette Boutelle; granddaughter of William Boutelle, and the late Bobbie Jean Boutelle, Chickasaw native.



Joseph Nech, a sophomore student at Rains High School, Emory, Texas, won first place at his track meet in early March for pole vault clearing over 10'.

Joseph is the son of Joe and Heather Nech, (who is the granddaughter of Peggy Neal), of Alba, Texas. His parents are incredibly proud of him and hope that he continues to succeed.

Ethan "E.J." Bonilla, third grade, won secnd place, and his sister, Leighanne Bonilla, fifth grade, won third place in the statewide Reflections contest.

Schools from all over the state of Arkansas submitted entries in different categories (visual arts, choreography, literature, photography, etc.). There were over 1,500 entries submitted this year. Both students submitted an entry in photography. They each took their own photos in regards to the theme, "The world would be a better place if..." Along with the photo, they had to each write a short artist's statement.

The submitted work will be judged blindly by three to four qualified individuals. Ethan and Leighanne will be recognized and honored at a Reflections celebration luncheon April 24.

Morgan Shaulis, a proud Chickasaw citizen, is a student at Tarleton (TX) State University. She made it on Tarleton's Scholastic Honor Dean's List for the fall 2014 semester.

This is one of the highest honors the university confers on its students.

Miss Shaulis is a sophomore and is studying animal science.

Her parents, David Shaulis and Robin Gray, sister, Haley Gray, grandparents, Mike and Brenda Gray, great-grandparents, LeRoy and Marlene Hoffard are all proud of her.

Chickasaw citizen A.J. Duncan, of the Tishomingo (OK) 4-H Club, exhibited the Grand Champion heifer at the 2015 Johnston County Junior Livestock Show. A.J. is a fifth grader at Tishomingo Middle School. His parents are Kevin and Shelley Duncan. He is a descendant of Ida Colbert.

Engagement

Barrett Robert Mayo, 20, son of Mark and Mona Mayo, of Cabot, Ark., and Sydney Elizabeth Grisham, 19, daughter of Don and Kristina Grisham, of Cabot, are happily engaged as of Oct 5, 2014. Barrett proposed to Sydney on her birthday at The Old Mill in Little Rock, Ark. They are both students, sophomores, at Arkansas State University in Beebe.

The couple will be married at The Lake Estate in Hot Springs, Ark. in April. They plan on having a small wedding with family and friends. They will be going to Jamaica on their honeymoon in May.

Blakely Elizabeth Mayo, 2, their daughter, will be the flower girl.

Grandparents of the bride are Myles III and Sandy Homer, of Ardmore, Okla.

Graduation

Paige D. Bickerstaff is a 2014 graduate of Mississippi State University, Starkville, where she earned her master's degree in sports administration. During her time at MSU, she served as the fitness graduate assistant at Mississippi State University's Joe Frank Sanderson Center, where she was recognized as the 2014 Student Affairs Graduate Assistant of the Year.

In 2013, she graduated from Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, where she earned her bachelor's degree in exercise science.

She is the daughter of Ken and Deb Bickerstaff, of Onsted, Mich., and the granddaughter of Olive (Foraker) Bickerstaff, of Adrian, Mich. She is the great-granddaughter of Flossie Alexander and great-great-granddaughter of James Alexander, both original enrollees.

Ms. Bickerstaff has recently accepted a position as a rehabilitation manager and trainer at a health and wellness center in USVI.

She would like to thank the Chickasaw Division of Higher Education for all of its continual support throughout here educational years. Without the support, her success would not have been possible.

Births

Dixen Bon Harjo was born November 26, 2014 to Brent Bon Harjo and Patricia June Cornish.

Grant Michael Ikard was born December 30, 2014, weighing 8 lb., 3 oz. and measuring 21.5 in.

The proud parents are Ben and Kristin Ikard, of Oklahoma City. He is the grandson of 2009 Chickasaw Nation Dynamic Woman of the Year Teresa Shavney and husband, Rick Knapp, of Oklahoma City.

Grant is the great-grandson of the late Chickasaw elder Beaulah Shavney and the great-great-grandson of original Chickasaw enrollee Sylvia (Gibson) Pope.

OCU School of Business offering full tuition scholarships to Indian students

OKLAHOMA CITY - Oklahoma City University's Meinders School of Business is offering Native American students the opportunity to earn a bachelor's degree in Business.

Recipients are awarded scholarships covering full-time tuition for eight consecutive semesters.

Eligible students must have Native American heritage, a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, an ACT score of 22 or higher, and must meet all other requirements to attend Oklahoma City University. Students must maintain a full-time enrollment status and a GPA of 3.0 or higher while enrolled.

The application requirements:

- Submit a completed OCU application for admission.
- Submit a Native American Business Scholars Academy application.
- Submit a 1,000-word essay on "How does receiving tribal scholarship support to earn a bachelor's degree from Oklahoma City University Meinders School of Business, allow you to achieve your goals or long-term plans?"

For more information, please contact Winter Bass (580) 421-7711, ext. 60088

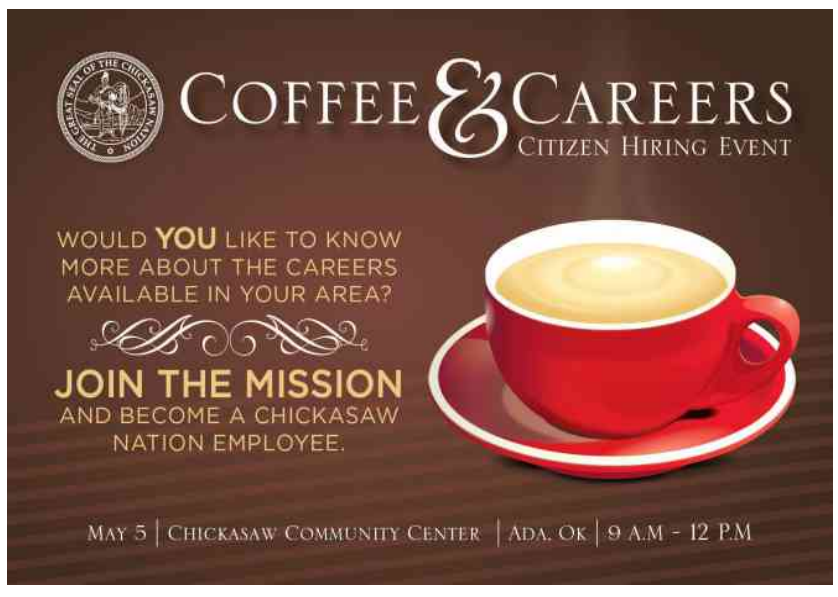
SCHOOL-TO-WORK

The Chickasaw Nation School-To-Work program, is now accepting applications in the Oklahoma City/Norman area for Chickasaw citizens who are currently attending or wanting to attend a university or technology school.

All Degrees and Vocational Certifications are accepted

- A citizen of the Chickasaw Nation
- A High school or GED graduate
- Willing to attend an accredited Vocational School or University full time
- Capable of maintaining a GPA of 2.0 or better
- Eligible to apply for federal funding, and/or Chickasaw Nation Higher Education/ Vocational scholarships and/or grants
- Willing to actively pursue higher education goals while fulfilling all requirements and responsibilities of on the job training.
- Applicants who are current students must submit a copy of current transcript at time of application.
- Applicants who are new students must submit a copy of current enrollment/class schedule at time of application.
- Applicants in Nursing Program must submit a copy of acceptance letter at time of application.
- Accepting applications from April 6, 2015 until 5:00pm April 20, 2015.

To complete an application and view detailed information, please refer to https://jobs.chickasaw.net, JOB ID: 32820. If you would like additional information, you may contact: 580.436.7259, or PO Box 1548, Ada, OK 74821.
APPLICANTS MUST APPLY ONLINE. PAPER APPLICATIONS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.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Lisa S. Huling, C.P.A

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2015 Youth Camps, Clinics and Academies

The Chickasaw Nation is now accepting applications for 2015 youth camps, clinics and academies. A number of tribal divisions work together to offer a variety of educational and recreational activities for youth to explore new opportunities and learn new skills. Application deadline is April 15, 2015.

Chickasaw Nation 2015 youth events include:

SUMMER CAMPS

Camp Survivor · May 26-29
YMCA Camp Classen, Davis, Okla.
Ages 9 to 13 or entering grades 4-8

Camp Survivor is a wellness camp that incorporates activities promoting physical, mental, cultural and spiritual health. Throughout the week, campers participate in numerous activities including swimming, hiking, fishing, archery, canoeing, rock-climbing, stickball and nutrition education. Campers also compete in mental and physical challenges and attend daily "tribal councils" where individuals and groups receive special recognition. This is an overnight camp.

Transportation is not provided.

For more information, contact camps & recreation at (580) 272-5716 or youthcamps@chickasaw.net

Environmental Camp · May 27-29
The Chickasaw Nation Housing Administration, 111 Rosedale Road, Ada, Okla.
Ages 8 to 12

This camp allows students a behind-the-scenes look at facilities. Participants learn about on-going conservation efforts, and multiple field trips are planned.

For more information, contact Cindy Gammons at (580) 272-5456.

Youth Golf Camp · June 1-2, June 3-4
WinStar Golf Course, Thackerville, Okla.
Youth Golf Camp I, June 1-2, ages 8 to 11 or entering grades 3-6
Youth Golf Camp II, June 3-4, ages 12 to 18 or entering grades 7-12

Golf Camp provides Native American youth the opportunity to enjoy the game of golf while learning life skills, such as honor, integrity and sportsmanship. Instruction for all skill levels is provided by a highly knowledgeable and motivated staff. This is an overnight camp.

Transportation is provided. For more information, contact camps & recreation at (580) 272-5716 or youthcamps@chickasaw.net.

Chickasaw Nation Cultural Camp · June 3-4
Chickasaw Cultural Center, Sulphur, Okla.
Ages 6 to 11

This two-day camp provides students the opportunity to experience a variety of cultural activities, such as traditional games, traditional stomp dance, traditional crafts and the Chickasaw language. This is a day camp. Registration is at 9 a.m. Activities will be from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. each day. Transportation is not provided. For more information, contact cultural resources at (580) 622-7140.

Native American Junior Open Golf Tournament · June 13
WinStar Golf Course, Thackerville, Okla.
Ages 8 to 18 or entering grades 3-12

The Native American Junior Open allows youth to experience a tournament atmosphere without the pressures of a school or golf association tournament. It is also a qualifying tournament for Chickasaw youth entering grades 7-12 for five available positions on Team Chickasaw.

Transportation will not be provided. For more information, contact camps & recreation at (580) 272-5716 or youthcamps@chickasaw.net.

Chickasaw Nation Aviation and Space Academy (CNASA) · June 8-15
Science, Technology and Math Academy, Ada, Okla.
Ages 10 to 18

This is a week-long academy for students interested in space, aviation, math and science. Students gain hands-on training in a simulator and have the opportunity to fly in an actual plane. CNASA is designed to inspire excellence and to motivate and challenge the vision, talent and energies of Chickasaw young people so they may pursue careers in science and technology.

For more information, contact the office of supportive programs at (580) 272-5579 or STMProgram@chickasaw.net.

Tennis Clinic
Ada Tennis Center, Ada, Okla.
Tennis Clinic I, June 8-9, ages 8 to 11 or entering grades 3-6
Tennis Clinic II, June 10-11, ages 12 to 18 or entering grades 7-12

These clinics offer students the tools necessary to build a lasting foundation in the sport of tennis by playing the game. Participants also learn about honor, integrity, sportsmanship and teamwork.

Transportation is provided. For more information, contact camps & recreation at (580) 272-5716 or youthcamps@chickasaw.net.

Chickasaw Cultural Enrichment Family Camp · June 14-19
Chickasaw Retreat and Conference Center, Sulphur, Okla.
Chickasaw Families

This camp is designed to promote the use of the Chickasaw language, culture and history within Chickasaw families. Camp activities include tours throughout the Chickasaw Nation, swimming, sports, storytelling and various other games and activities with primary instruction given in the Chickasaw language. This is an overnight camp. For more information, contact the Language Department (580) 272-5540.

Space Camp · June 14-19
U.S. Space & Rocket Center at Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, Ala.
Ages 9 to 18

Space Camp students obtain hands-on training while learning about the mental, emotional and physical demands astronauts face. Fields of study include engineering, space technology and aerospace science. For more information, contact the office of supportive programs at (580) 272-5579 or STMProgram@chickasaw.net.

Tanumpo Hosa Apisa Camp (Place for Watching Shooting Guns) · June 15-16
Southern Oklahoma Sportsman's Club, Davis, Okla.
Ages 12-18 or entering grades 7-12

This camp features instruction on gun safety and marksmanship techniques. The camp focuses on the disciplines required for Olympic-style target shooting and consists of both classroom instruction and firing practice. Transportation is provided.

For more information, contact camps & recreation at (580) 272-5716 or youthcamps@chickasaw.net.

Chickasaw Lighthorse Police Youth Academy · June 22-25
Lighthorse Police Department, Ada, Okla.
Ages 9-13

This academy provides an excellent opportunity for youth to explore a career in law enforcement. Students hear presentations from law enforcement personnel and learn life skills such as CPR, communication, safety and crime prevention. Activities will be from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. each day. For more information, contact Lighthorse Police Administration at (580) 436-1166 or melisha.sutton@chickasaw.net.

Ikbi Holisso Camp (Book Creation) · June 24-26
East Central University, Ada, Okla.
Ages 12 to 18

This camp will introduce students to the world of book publishing from concept to writing, illustrating, editing, design and production. The students will be trained and guided through the steps of book creation while they produce a book in digital format. For more information, contact the Chickasaw Press at (580) 436-7282.

Champions Football Clinic · June 25-27
Ada High School, Ada, Okla.
Ages 8 to 18 or entering grades 3-12

At this clinic, a team of veteran coaches and players teach students fundamental football skills and features special guests. Highlights include an 8-to-1 student to instructor ratio, offensive drills, defensive drills and more. Transportation is provided. For more information, contact camps & recreation at (580) 272-5716 or youthcamps@chickasaw.net.

Champions Cheerleading Clinic · June 26-27
Family Life Center, Ada, Okla.
Ages 8 to 18 or entering grades 3-12

At this clinic, a team of Day of Champions cheerleading coaches instruct students on motion, jumps, spirit, rhythm, health and fitness. Students enhance their abilities and learn basic cheerleading fundamentals geared toward their skill levels. Transportation is provided.

For more information, contact camps & recreation at (580) 272-5716 or youthcamps@chickasaw.net.

Youth Basketball Camp · July 6-7, July 9-10
Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma City, Okla.
Girl's Camp July 6-7 / Boy's Camp July 9-10
Ages 8 to 18 or entering grades 3-12

Youth Basketball Camp participants learn basketball techniques from high school head coaches, university coaches and current or former university players. This camp ends with a round-robin style tournament. This is an overnight camp. Transportation is provided. For more information, contact camps & recreation at (580) 272-5716 or youthcamps@chickasaw.net.

Chickasaw Arts Academy · July 13-31, 2015
East Central University, Ada, Okla.
Ages 8 to 18

The academy is an intensive three-week exploration of fine arts. Students majoring in fine arts start the academy July 13. Interdisciplinary and Fine Arts Rotation students begin the following on week July 20. The academy will conclude July 31 with a showcase on the final evening. Participants will have opportunities to gain experience in the artistic fields of visual arts (2-D & 3-D), theatre, creative writing, dance, vocal music, music composition, photography, theatre technology, video production, textile design, jazz piano, jewelry/adornment/sculpture in copper and cultural enrichment in the Chickasaw and southeast Native cultures. For more information, contact the division of arts & humanities at (580) 272-5520 or csaa@chickasaw.net.

FCA Xtreme Camp · June 14-18
Crosspoint Camp, Kingston, Okla.
Ages 15 to 18

This camp is for students who want to participate in challenging activities and great fellowship. Campers have the opportunity to water ski, water tube, skeet shoot, rappel, ride horses, compete in huddle competitions, scale a 65-foot climbing tower and experience a high ropes challenge course. Campers will also enjoy outstanding speakers and great music. This is an overnight camp. Transportation is not provided. For more information, contact camps & recreation at (580) 272-5716 or youthcamps@chickasaw.net.

FCA Competitors Camp · July 18-21
Camp Walk on Water, Gerty, Okla.
Ages 11 to 14

Competitors Camp combines great facilities and activities with the athleticism and competition that defines the Fellowship of Christian Athletes ministry. Activities include a climbing wall, zip line, water slide, ropes course, obstacle course, the Blob, Bible devotions, upbeat music, topical discussions and much more. This is an overnight camp. Transportation is not provided.

For more information, contact camps & recreation at (580) 272-5716 or youthcamps@chickasaw.net.

Yaakni' Inaalhpisaat Chokma (The Nation's Laws are Good) · June 1-2
Chickasaw Nation Judicial Building, Ada, Okla.
Ages 10 to 16

This is a two-day camp which will educate students on the process of a court trial and Chickasaw Nation Code. We will also introduce the students to Chickasaw Nation employees who support the courts and the citizens, such as attorneys from the Division of Justice, members of the Legislative Department, Lighthorse Chief of Police, Lighthorse Police officers, etc. The students will have an opportunity to participate in a mock trial, learn how laws are made, play games and much more.

For more information, contact the Chickasaw Nation Judicial Building at (580) 235-0281.

FALL CAMPS

Hayaka Unta Camp (Into the Woods) · Oct. 2-4, 2015 and April 8-10, 2016
Camp Simpson, Bromide, Okla.
Ages 8 to 18 or entering grades 3-12
Fall Camp will begin Oct. 2-4, 2015
Spring Camp will begin April 8-10, 2016

Hayaka Unta Camp gives Chickasaw youth and their parents or guardians an opportunity to share quality time together while enjoying the natural beauty of the outdoors. This camp offers a variety of exciting and challenging activities including rock wall climbing, canoeing, hiking, fishing, skeet shooting, archery and camping. This is an overnight camp. Transportation is not provided. For more information, contact camps & recreation at (580) 272-5716 or youthcamps@chickasaw.net.

Chikashshaat Hoochokoshkomo Camp (Chickasaws are Playing) · Oct. 15-16
Chickasaw Cultural Center, Sulphur, Okla.
Ages 12 to 18

This day camp will provide students the opportunity to learn the history of traditional games. Campers will learn how to play a variety of traditional games, including chunkey, marbles, archery, horseshoes and stickball. Students will also learn how to make stickball sticks and balls.

Registration is at 9 a.m. Activities will be from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. each day. Transportation is not provided. For more information, contact cultural resources at (580) 622-7140.

Halloween Lock-In · Oct. 23-24
Andy Alligator's, Norman, Okla.
Ages 8 to 13 or entering grades 3-8

This Halloween-themed lock-in allows students to participate in mini-bowling, go-karts, batting cages, mini-golf, a climbing wall, bumper cars, bumper boats, arcade and a variety of other fun activities. This is an overnight camp. Transportation is provided. For more information, contact camps & recreation at (580) 272-5716 or youthcamps@chickasaw.net.

WINTER CAMPS

Winter Baseball Clinic · Dec. 21-22
D-BAT Sport Plex, Oklahoma City, Okla.
Ages 8 to 18 or entering grades 3-12

This day clinic is designed to teach essential life skills, such as dedication, goal setting and teamwork, while teaching the basic foundations of baseball. Camp instruction focuses on improving the fundamentals of hitting, pitching and fielding. Campers learn how goal-setting and self-discipline improve playing ability and help in everyday life. Transportation is provided.

For more information, contact camps & recreation at (580) 272-5716 or youthcamps@chickasaw.net.

Winter Softball Clinic · Dec. 28-29
D-BAT Sport Plex, Oklahoma City, Okla.
Ages 8 to 18 or entering grades 3-12

This camp focuses on improving the fundamentals of hitting, pitching, fielding, conditioning and teamwork. Camp instruction is led by high school and college-level coaches and players who are dedicated to helping students improve their softball skills. Transportation is provided. For more information, contact camps & recreation at (580) 272-5716 or youthcamps@chickasaw.net.

Application Information

Submitting an application does not guarantee selection to the camp. Applicants should be aware once acceptance to a youth services event has been determined, attendance is required. If circumstances prevent attendance, selection for future events may be hindered.

Some camps may require a different applications for registration. Find the following applications for camps, clinic or academies at www.Chicksaw.net/Services. Please Return applications to address, email or fax listed on application.

· Chickasaw Nation Aviation and Space Academy (CNASA)
· Space Camp
· Chickasaw Cultural Enrichment Camp, Lighthorse Youth Academy
· Chickasaw Summer Arts Academy
· Chikashshaat Hoochokoshkomo Camp "Chickasaws are Playing"
· Ikbi Holisso Camp "Book Creation"

For more information or to obtain an application, contact camps & recreation at (580) 272-5716 or youthcamps@chickasaw.net.

Additional information is also available at www.chickasaw.net/youthcamps. Applications may be submitted by mail, fax or online.

Return general camps, clinics and academies application(s) to: The Chickasaw Nation Division of Youth Services, 231 Seabrook Road, Ada, OK 74820 or fax to (580) 310-6626.

Chickasaw Nation announces key personnel appointments

Jesse Anderson

ADA, Okla. – Governor Bill Anoatubby recently named a health care information professional as director of ancillary services for Chickasaw Nation Department of Health.

Jesse Anderson, whose Chickasaw Nation career began in 2002 when he was a college student, was promoted to the leadership position in December.

In his new position, Mr. Anderson will oversee ancillary services for the Chickasaw Nation Department of Health, which include laboratory, radiology and clinic informatics services.

"Mr. Anderson is committed to taking an active role in our mission of enhancing the overall quality of life of Chickasaw people," Gov. Anoatubby said. "He has demonstrated the technical aptitude, commitment and initiative needed to ensure we deliver exceptional services to all Chickasaw Nation Medical Center patients and their families."

A certified professional in health information technology, Mr. Anderson's previous positions with the Chickasaw Nation provided extensive experience in coordination, implementation and monitoring of the electronic health record program.

"Basically, we help the doctors optimize the computer programs to help treat the patient," Mr. Anderson said.

A Citizen Potawatomi tribal citizen, Mr. Anderson said his experience helping his wife battle breast cancer gave him a new perspective on his role in patient care.

"I've been on the patient side of imaging and I understand how important it is we catch things early and provide quality services," he said. "That really drives me to help improve our processes here. I am honored to serve the Chickasaw people and the Chickasaw Nation."

A native of the Atwood, Okla., area, Mr. Anderson received a bachelor's degree in chemistry from East Central University and is currently working on a master's degree in health care administration at Oklahoma State University.

Mr. Anderson's career with the Chickasaw Nation began in 2002 when he worked as a pharmacy technician. After a two-year stint working in administrative roles with the Central Oklahoma Family Medical Center in Konawa, Okla., Mr. Anderson returned to the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center in 2010.

The exceptional Chickasaw Nation work environment and his coworkers were major factors in his decision to return to the Chickasaw Nation.

"The opportunities that the Chickasaw Nation provides and the benefits are really amazing."

Mr. Anderson resides in Ada with his wife, Sonja.

Richard Barker

ADA, Okla. – Governor Bill Anoatubby has selected a seasoned career health care professional to serve as Deputy Secretary of the Department of Health.

Richard Barker began duties with the Chickasaw Nation in January after serving hospitals and health care facilities in Texas and Oklahoma as a chief executive officer and executive of health services.

"Richard Barker is committed to helping the Department of Health maintain its record of offering excellent healthcare to Chickasaws and other Native Americans," Gov. Anoatubby said. "We believe his wide range of education and experience make him an asset to our health care team."

Mr. Barker's duties for the Chickasaw Nation include the day-to-day operation of the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center and tribal health systems. He also acts as a team member for Secretary of Health Dr. Judy Goforth Parker.

Mr. Barker is studying potential health care initiatives for the tribe. He is familiarizing himself with compacts, U.S. Indian Health Service Contracted Health Programs, and other programs and initiatives that serve to improve the quality of life for patients seeking care through the Greater Chickasaw Nation Health System.

"We are looking into all aspects of health care," Mr. Barker said. "By examining hospitals, quality health initiatives and best practices, we are able to look at facilities that are operationally lean but do not sacrifice quality. The Nation is uniquely positioned to evaluate health service programs nationally, while assessing explosive growth and preparing for the future."

Mr. Barker worked with Mercy hospitals beginning in 1990 as administrator of Mercy Hospital Love County in Marietta, Okla.

"At Mercy Hospital Love County, we worked closely with the tribe on many Field Emergency Medical Services (EMS) programs, particularly with WinStar (World Casinos)," Mr. Barker said.

The hospital also provided an EMS-based Fire Brigade service near the casino manned by the hospital's EMS personnel.

The Chickasaw Nation Medical Center has accommodated more than 1 million patient visits since it opened in 2010.

Mr. Barker received a bachelor's degree in health services administration and a master's degree in business administration from Ottawa University, Ottawa, Kansas. He also holds a credential of advanced studies in health services administration from the University of Minnesota. He is a fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Mr. Barker is licensed by Oklahoma as a long-term care administrator and is trained in cardiopulmonary services. He is a registered respiratory therapist and a licensed respiratory care practitioner. He performed clinical training at Parkland Hospital and Methodist, both in Dallas.

He is a U.S. Marine Corps Vietnam veteran. He served two years in the Army Medical Corps at Fort Hood, Texas as an Army Medic following his Vietnam tour.

Mr. Barker and his wife, Connie, have four adult children, Brandon Mathews, Montana Berry, Nikki Barker and Alise Barker. Three are involved in the medical profession or studying for careers in the medical field.

Matthew Folsom

ADA, Okla. – A former Chickasaw Nation employee has returned to the tribe to be Director of Training within the Interior Services Department. Gov. Bill Anoatubby has appointed Matthew Folsom to the post with responsibilities for operational training in the Department of Commerce, in addition to My Chickasaw University, Can Do initiative, new-hire orientation, and Learning and Performance classes including Career Development classes.

"Matt Folsom understands that proper training is vital to accomplishing our mission to enhance the lives of Chickasaw people," Gov. Anoatubby said. "He appreciates the value of helping employees recognize the significance of performing their duties with excellence.

Mr. Folsom, a Chickasaw citizen, left a sales manager position with the Cintas office in Oklahoma City to rejoin the Chickasaw Nation, where he previously worked in Youth Services. He was with Cintas four years and managed sales forces in Oklahoma City, Lawton and Ada. He was responsible for hiring and training the Cintas sales staff.

He now manages a training team located in Ada, WinStar World Casino, Riverwind, and the tribe's Newcastle Training Center.

Mr. Folsom, 30, of Moore, Okla., received a bachelor's degree in business management and a master's degree in sports administration, both from East Central University. He also played varsity tennis at ECU.

Mr. Folsom and his wife, Courtney, live in Ada with their three children. Mrs. Folsom works full time at Trinity Baptist Church in Ada where she works with college students and helps plan and organize missions trips for the church. The family is active in Trinity Baptist.

"I am super excited to return to the Chickasaw Nation," Mr. Folsom said. "There is great leadership here and I am happy to be part of it.

"I feel extremely blessed to work with such a great team."

Kelly Garrett

ADA, Okla. – Governor Bill Anoatubby has appointed a U.S. Navy veteran to lead the Chickasaw Nation Ardmore Health Clinic.

Kelly Garrett was named director of the Ardmore Health Clinic in late 2014. She has extensive experience in health care administration, logging more than 15 years in the health care field.

"Ms. Garrett brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to this new position," Gov. Anoatubby said. "She is an asset to the Chickasaw Nation who will strengthen our ability to deliver vital health care programs and services to Chickasaw citizens and Native Americans."

In this new position, Ms. Garrett manages and directs the day-to-day operations and health care programs of the Ardmore Health Clinic.

"It is a privilege to be appointed as the director of the Ardmore Clinic," Ms. Garrett said. "I am looking forward to this opportunity. I'm excited to be a part of improving and enhancing health care of Chickasaw citizens and Native Americans who choose the Ardmore Heath Clinic as their health care home."

A native of Wynnewood, Okla., Ms. Garrett graduated from Heritage Hall High School, Oklahoma City, in 1994, and earned a basketball scholarship to Rose State College, Midwest City, Okla.

She enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1996 and served on active duty as a Hospital Corpsman until 2001 and reserve duty until 2005.

Ms. Garrett earned a bachelor's degree in business management and a master's of business administration, both from the University of Phoenix.

Her service to the Chickasaw Nation began in 2010 when she accepted a position as assistant business manager at the Chickasaw Medical Center. She most recently served as clinic manager.

Previously, Ms. Garrett has worked for Southeast Georgia Health System, St. Mary's, Georgia, and the University of Jacksonville Shands Hospital, Jacksonville, Florida.

She lives in Ardmore with her husband, Dominque Coursey, and children, Peyton, Dominique and William.

About the Ardmore Health Clinic

The Chickasaw Nation Ardmore Health Clinic, 2510 Chickasaw Blvd., was expanded and renovated in 2012 and now offers new and expanded services to Chickasaw citizens and Native Americans.

Sheryl Goodson

ADA, Okla. – Governor Bill Anoatubby has promoted Sheryl Goodson to Executive Officer of Satellite Clinics.

Mrs. Goodson began her career with the tribe in 1999 as a medical staff coordinator. In 2001, she was promoted to Director of Medical Support Services. In that capacity, she was in charge of medical staff credentialing, physician recruiting and in 2007, began managing the Chickasaw Nation's satellite clinics.

"Sheryl Goodson has demonstrated her ability to be an effective leader who understands her role in our mission to enhance the overall quality of life of the Chickasaw people," Gov. Anoatubby said. "She has the education, experience and dedication needed to serve the Chickasaw people well in this position."

Her new duties include management of clinics in Ardmore, Purcell and Tishomingo, medical staff support services and research and population health. Approximately 100 employees man the Ardmore and Tishomingo clinics, with an additional 40 in Purcell.

Mrs. Goodson will oversee the day-to-day operations of the clinics and assure quality care. She was heavily involved in projects to expand the Ardmore and Tishomingo clinics. She will supervise an additional 13,000 square-foot expansion of the Purcell clinic in the near future.

"We will expand (Purcell) to include dental, physical therapy, imaging and other services that haven't been offered there before," Mrs. Goodson said.

Mrs. Goodson earned a degree in health management from East Central University. She recently earned a master's degree in business from Oklahoma Christian University. She has a certificate in public health from the University of Oklahoma and an advanced certification in Medical Practice Management.

Mrs. Goodson and her husband, Jack, live in Allen, Okla., where he operates the family-owned cattle business. They couple has three sons.

"Working for the tribe for 15 years, I've watched the Department of Health grow – not just expansion of buildings but expansion of services to Chickasaw citizens and Native Americans," Mrs. Goodson said. "Just being able to take care of people is something I look forward to every day. It is very rewarding.

"It's just been amazing the types of services and the amount of people we are now able to serve, especially in the last two to three years."

Sally Hilburn

ADA, Okla. –Governor Bill Anoatubby has recently appointed Sally Hilburn to lead the Chickasaw Nation Health Clinic in Tishomingo, Okla.

Mrs. Hilburn, a Chickasaw citizen, is from Wapanucka, Okla.

"Mrs. Hilburn understands the important role health care plays in helping enhance the quality of life of the Chickasaw people" Gov. Anoatubby said. "Her experience and dedication to serving the people she sees as friends and neighbors make her well-suited for this position."

Mrs. Hilburn's career with the tribe began in June 1992 when she accepted a part-time summer youth position at the Tishomingo facility.

In her new role, Mrs. Hilburn manages and directs the day-to-day operations and health care programs of the Tishomingo Health Clinic. She works to ensure coordinated health care delivery is based on consistent policies and procedures.

"It is an honor and privilege be selected as the director of the Tishomingo Clinic," Mrs. Hilburn said. "I have had the opportunity to 'grow up' in the Chickasaw Nation through our wonderful Summer Youth Program."

She has witnessed much progress in Chickasaw Nation health care programs and services during her tenure.

"With the leadership of Governor Anoatubby, the Chickasaw Nation has prospered into the success it is today and I am blessed to be a part of it," she said. "I will continue to strive to enhance the overall quality of life Chickasaw citizens and all Native Americans."

Real-world workforce experience Mrs. Hilburn gained through the tribal Summer Youth Program, which provides workforce training and experience to Chickasaw youth, was instrumental in her decision to pursue a career in health information management.

Over the past 22 years Mrs. Hilburn has served the Chickasaw Nation in a number of positions including: Health Information Management clerk, Health Information Management Supervisor, Inpatient Billing clerk and most recently, Clinic Manager.

She was honored in 2009 with the Peer Award by the Area Directors of U.S. Indian Health Service.

She enjoys working in the Tishomingo Clinic and serving her friends and neighbors.

"Our staff is like one big family," she said. "We want our patients to feel like this is their medical home."

A native of Connerville, Okla., Mrs. Hilburn is a 1993 graduate of Wapanucka High School. She earned an associates degree in business office and medical office from Murray State (OK) College and is currently studying administrative leadership at the University of Oklahoma.

Mrs. Hilburn and her husband, Chad, have two children.

About the Tishomingo Health Clinic

The Chickasaw Nation Tishomingo Health Clinic, 815 E. Sixth Street, Tishomingo, Okla., is a 53,000 square-foot health clinic which provides expanded services, a drive-through pharmacy and dental services. Located in the historic capital city of the Chickasaw Nation, the new facility is more than four times the size of the original clinic and offers enhanced and expanded services to Native Americans

By Dana Lance

Debbie Jackson

ADA, Okla. – Governor Bill Anoatubby has promoted an employee with 40 years of service to the Chickasaw Nation to Executive Officer of the Chikasha House and Patient Resources.

Debbie Jackson, who became an employee in June 1975 at the Chickasaw Motor Inn in Sulphur, assumed her new duties in December after serving many years as Director of Customer Relations for the Department of Health.

Mrs. Jackson is performing tasks she loves by helping Chickasaws, other Natives, and their families, and loved ones facing health-related challenges. The job is demanding, but Mrs. Jackson would not have it any other way.

"I remember sitting around those captain tables at the Motor Inn during lunch and talking about what the Nation would be able to do someday," she said. "Well, we're seeing it. We watched it come to life and it is expanding and growing. I'm seeing a hospital facility we only dreamed about 40 years ago. I am so blessed to have witnessed the Nation's progress under the exemplary leadership of Governor Anoatubby. We knew eventually we were going to get where we are now. To achieve the level of professionalism and respect – both statewide and nationally – is a blessing and a testament to great leadership."

"Debbie Jackson was among the first few dozen employees of the Chickasaw Nation," Gov. Anoatubby said. "She is a great example of the dedicated employees who helped the Chickasaw Nation achieve the level of success we enjoy today."

Mrs. Jackson performed numerous tasks for the tribe during her first 20 years, relocating with the tribe to Ada when its headquarters moved from Sulphur. She worked for the office of Native American Programs, transferred to the Department of Education and then moved to the Chickasaw Nation Department of Housing.

When the tribe compacted with U.S. Indian Health Service in 1994 to assume authority for health care for its citizens, she became the customer relations representative for the Department of Health.

"I have always loved my jobs," she said. "I enjoy having the opportunity to help Chickasaw citizens

SEE APPOINTMENTS, PAGE 11

APPOINTMENTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

and all Native people, assisting them with connecting to services we offer or services available through Indian Health Services doing what I can to help people and helping fulfill their needs."

As Chikasha House Executive Officer, her ever-present helping hand will be quite busy.

Chikasha House is a hospitality house offered free to family members who have loved ones receiving treatment at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center. It is a home-away-from-home with two guest cottages. Each cottage has four bedrooms; each room has a bathroom, dining area, a common living area and an outside facility where children can play in safety.

Mrs. Jackson also manages chaplain services, the Medical Center gift shop and assists patients and family access available resources.

In 2011, she was awarded the Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service Area Director's Excellence in Customer Service Award-Tribal Programs.

She earned her bachelor's degree from East Central University in 1991.

She and her husband, Lee, have two children and five grandchildren. Mrs. Jackson and her husband enjoy traveling and cooking. They are longtime members of Trinity Baptist Church in Ada.

Carrie Law

ADA, Okla. - Governor Bill Anoatubby has named Carrie Law Executive Officer of Hospitals and Clinical Excellence.

Mrs. Law, a Chickasaw citizen, previously was Director of Pharmacy operations. She has served in multiple health-related capacities with the tribe since 2002. She earned her doctorate of pharmacy from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in 2002 and immediately went to work as a staff pharmacist for the Chickasaw Nation.

Last year, Mrs. Law managed the operation that dispensed 1.3 million prescriptions to Chickasaws and tribal employees.

Administrative forethought and health care compacts, Mrs. Law said, have enabled the tribe to negotiate better prices for prescription medication. The tribe's employees and citizens enjoy a greatly reduced cost due to this arrangement.

Mrs. Law is one year away from earning a master's of business administration from Oklahoma Christian University.

"The master's program will have an emphasis in health care," she said. "It will give me a better understanding of leadership, managing and budgeting for sound financial results. It is very challenging and forces you to think outside the box and take the blinders off. In the current position, I'm learning hiring is critically important, from radiologists to phlebotomists, and that utilizing all of our resources to their fullest extent is required."

Gov. Anoatubby said Mrs. Law "is committed to the health and well-being of the Chickasaw people. Her decision to continue her education beyond her doctor of pharmacy degree is evidence she truly understands the importance of her role in fulfilling our mission to enhance the overall quality of life of the Chickasaw people."

Mrs. Law is a graduate of Tuttle (OK) High School, where she was class valedictorian in 1996. Two years later her interest in clinical operation led Mrs. Law to transfer to the tribe's Purcell Clinic as its coordinator. She served there until 2010 when Gov. Anoatubby appointed her pharmacy director.

Mrs. Law and her husband, Kris, have one son. The family lives near Sulphur where they manage the family cattle business.

"God called me to do this and I was willing to listen to the call," she said. "As a Chickasaw citizen I am humbled and honored to work for our citizens and serve in a capacity that allows me to help."

Heather Summers

ADA, Okla. – Governor Bill Anoatubby has recently appointed a tenured Chickasaw health care professional to a leadership position in the Chickasaw Nation.

Heather Summers, M.S., RN, a Chickasaw citizen, was recently named Undersecretary of Operations, Hospital and Clinics for the Chickasaw Nation Health Department. A Sulphur, Okla., native, Mrs. Summers has served the Chickasaw Nation in the health care realm for almost two decades.

"Heather Summers recognizes that quality healthcare is a vital part of our efforts to enhance the quality of life of the Chickasaw people," Gov. Anoatubby said. "Her years of dedicated service, leadership skills and integrity make her a great asset to the Chickasaw Nation Department of Health."

In her new role, Mrs. Summers oversees administration of all direct care programs and services, policies, procedures, regulatory and accreditation requirements for the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center, Ada, and health clinics located throughout the Chickasaw Nation. In addition, she has general oversight of applicable professional standards, staffing, fiscal management and performance evaluations of Chickasaw Nation Department of Health operations.

"I have had the great fortune to see firsthand the growth and development of all the programs within the Chickasaw Nation Department of Health," Mrs. Summers said. "Governor Anoatubby and his leadership have made that possible. I am humbled and honored to have the confidence of Gov. Anoatubby to further that work and to serve our citizens in such an important manner."

A graduate of East Central University, Mrs. Summers earned a bachelor's degree in nursing in 1994. She received a master's degree in nursing administration from Oklahoma University Health Science Center College of Nursing in 2012.

She began her career as an U.S. Indian Health Service employee July 1994 at Carl Albert Indian Health Facility in Ada.

Chris Tharp

ADA, Okla. - Governor Bill Anoatubby has appointed an Ada native as the Executive Officer of Tribal and Commercial Health.

Leadership and planning at all Sovereign Medical Solutions locations will be under the management of Chris Tharp.

"We believe Chris Tharp is well suited to his new position," Secretary of Commerce Bill Lance said. "We believe he has the knowledge and experience necessary to explore new opportunities to leverage the success and operational knowledge of our tribal health care system to the benefit of our neighbors through our business operations."

Mr. Tharp will manage the clinical operations of Sovereign Medical Solutions, assist with the evaluation of new business opportunities and develop growth strategies for tribal and corporate business initiatives.

"This new position allows me to be a visionary while fulfilling the overall mission of the Chickasaw Nation," Mr. Tharp said. "My heart is with the Chickasaw Nation. I am so appreciative and am so blessed to be here."

For the past 18 years, Mr. Tharp has worked in a variety of positions for the tribe. He began with Emergency Medical Services. From there, he worked his way up through the Chickasaw Nation Department of Health.

The pinnacle of his career was being on the ground floor development of the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center where he worked to make a dream of the Chickasaw Nation and its citizens a reality.

"It humbled me, but it also made me proud to be a part of that," Mr. Tharp said. "Everything I've done here just leads me to the next thing."

Mr. Tharp earned his bachelor's degree in business administration at East Central University.

Mr. Tharp and his wife, Marjana, have two sons and live in Roff, Okla.

Marty Wafford

ADA, Okla. – Governor Bill Anoatubby has recently appointed an experienced health care finance professional to a leadership role within the Chickasaw Nation Department of Health.

Marty Wafford was recently named Undersecretary of Support for the Chickasaw Nation Department of Health.

"Mrs. Wafford has consistently demonstrated a genuine passion for providing the highest quality health care services," Gov. Anoatubby said. "Her education, knowledge, experience and commitment to meeting our mission makes her well-suited for this position."

In her new position, Mrs. Wafford oversees a multitude of health care administrative functions including the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center business office, medical records, building maintenance, nutrition programs and the Chikasha House.

"I am honored to be named to this position and excited to lead a great team," Mrs. Wafford said. "I love knowing I get to help support programs which help our patients."

She gains a personal satisfaction working "behind the scenes" of health care.

"I am here to serve however I am needed and I get to work with wonderful people every day." Mrs. Wafford said.

Previously, Mrs. Wafford served the Chickasaw Nation Department of Health in the role of assistant manager, director and administrative officer. She is also a graduate of the Chickasaw Nation Career Development program.

She began her tenure with the Chickasaw Nation in 2001 as an accountant in the Department of Treasury dedicated to the tribal Health Department.

During her 14 years with the Chickasaw Nation, she has had the opportunity to be a part of building the new Chickasaw Nation Medical Center along with the new clinics in both Ardmore and Tishomingo.

Mrs. Wafford enjoys witnessing patients' delight as they experience the exceptional new facilities for the first time.

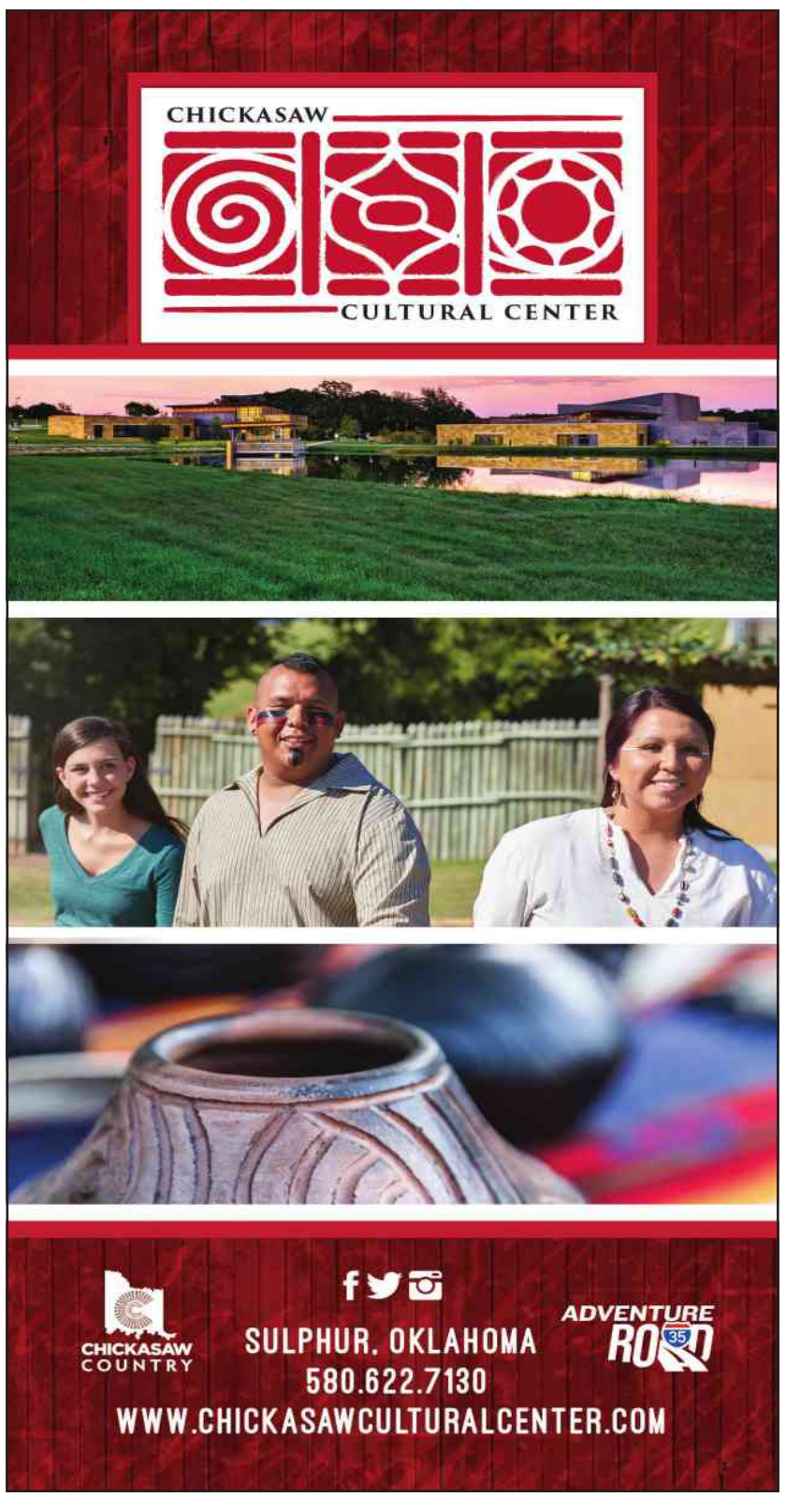
"That is the rewarding part of my day. It's so awesome and I love it - to be a part of taking care of people every day."

A native of Caney, Okla., Mrs. Wafford received a bachelor's degree in accounting from Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Her career in the health care field began as a college student when she worked at the Medical Center of Southeastern Oklahoma in Durant.

Mrs. Wafford and her husband, Michael, a Chickasaw citizen, reside south of Tupelo, Okla., with their two children. Both children were born at Carl Albert Indian Hospital in Ada.

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations and Dana Lance, Media Relations.



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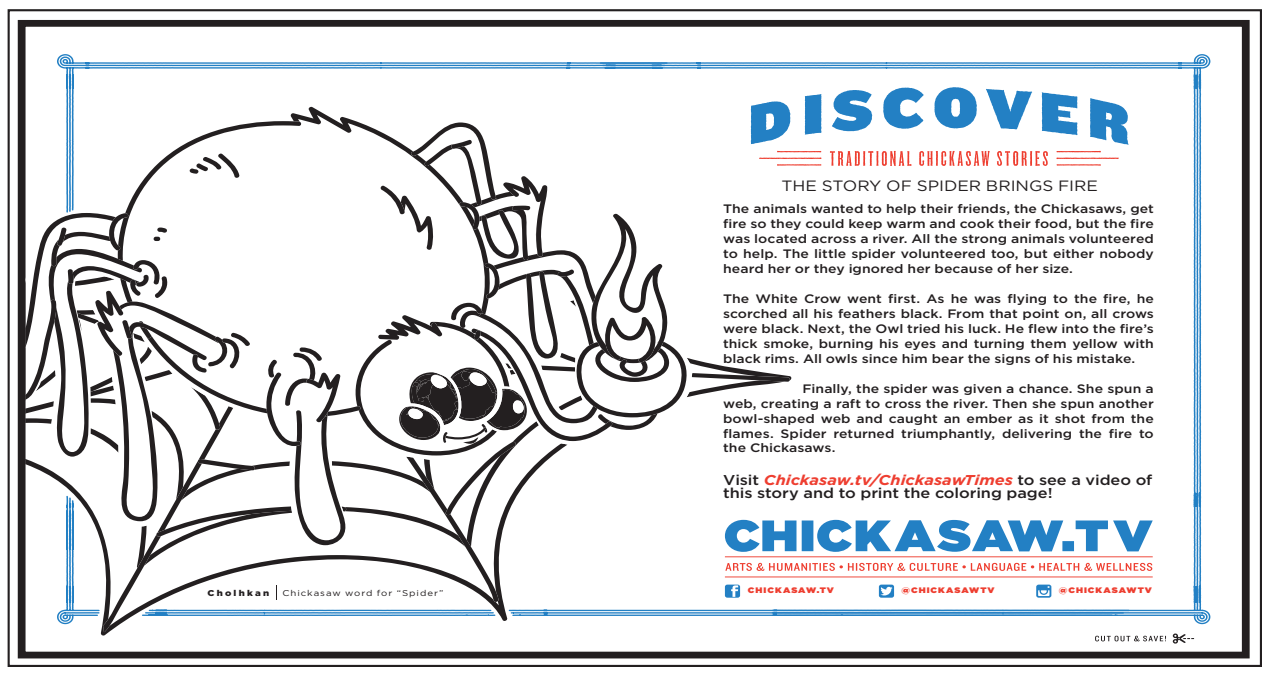
DISCOVER
TRADITIONAL CHICKASAW STORIES
THE STORY OF SPIDER BRINGS FIRE
The animals wanted to help their friends, the Chickasaws, get fire so they could keep warm and cook their food, but the fire was located across a river. All the strong animals volunteered to help. The little spider volunteered too, but either nobody heard her or they ignored her because of her size.
The White Crow went first. As he was flying to the fire, he scorched all his feathers black. From that point on, all crows were black. Next, the Owl tried his luck. He flew into the fire's thick smoke, burning his eyes and turning them yellow with black rims. All owls since him bear the signs of his mistake.
Finally, the spider was given a chance. She spun a web, creating a raft to cross the river. Then she spun another bowl-shaped web and caught an ember as it shot from the flames. Spider returned triumphantly, delivering the fire to the Chickasaws.
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CUT OUT & SAVE!

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of the Whole · March 9, 2015
Present: Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, Scott Wood, David Woerz, Steve Woods
Absent: Beth Alexander

Finance Committee · March 9, 2015
Present: Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Toby Perkins, Steve Woods, Connie Barker, Linda Briggs, David Woerz

Election Rules & Regulations Ad Hoc Committee · February 9, 2015
Present: Beth Alexander, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker
Absent: Tim Colbert

Land Development Committee · March 9, 2015
Present: Beth Alexander, Mary Jo Green, Steve Woods, Connie Barker, Tim Colbert
Absent: Linda Briggs, David Woerz

Legislative Committee · March 9, 2015
Present: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, Scott Wood, , Steve Woods, Tim Colbert
Absent: Linda Briggs, David Woerz

Education Committee · March 9, 2015
Present: Beth Alexander, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Nancy Elliott, Shana Hammond, Toby Perkins
Absent: Linda Briggs

Health Care Committee · March 9, 2015
Present: Scott Woods, Connie Barker, Katie Case, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Steve Woods

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

CHICKASAW NATION TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
Legislative Session
Legislature Building
Ada, Oklahoma
March 20, 2015

AGENDA ITEM #1	CALL MEETING TO ORDER
AGENDA ITEM #2	ROLL CALL
AGENDA ITEM #3	INVOCATION
AGENDA ITEM #4	APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 20, 2015
AGENDA ITEM #5	UNFINISHED BUSINESS
AGENDA ITEM #6	REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(A) FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Toby Perkins

GR32-014 - Approval of Development Budget Amendment, Aa-Ashaachi'

GR32-015 - Approval of Development Budget Amendment, Violence Prevention Center

GR32-016 - Approval of Development Budget Amendment, Women's Recovery Center

(B) LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Linda Briggs

GR32-017 - To Amend General Resolution Number 21-003, (To Include a Corrected Property Description for the Authorization for Acquisition of Real Property in Stephens County)

GR32-018 - Repeal and Replace General Resolution 31-013, Approving Water Pipeline Easement in Pittsburg County

AGENDA ITEM #7	NEW BUSINESS (Comments from Citizens)
AGENDA ITEM #8	ADJOURNMENT

FEBRUARY 2015 RESOLUTIONS

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-014
Approval of Development Budget Amendment
Aa-Ashaachi'

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article VII, Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature shall enact rules and regulations pertaining to the Chickasaw Nation, and shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition and management of real property, subject to federal law, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article XI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Governor shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of Chief Executive. He shall sign official papers on behalf of the Nation, and

WHEREAS, Section 10-201.4 of the Chickasaw Nation Code requires projects intended to develop tribal real property to be contained in a Development Budget, apart and separate from the Consolidated Governmental Budget, and

WHEREAS, the Governor has submitted the proposed revision to the Development Budget for the listed project in Exhibit A, and

WHEREAS, the requirements of Subsection 18-100.6(B) have been statutorily met by the Governor's submission of this revision to the Development Budget.

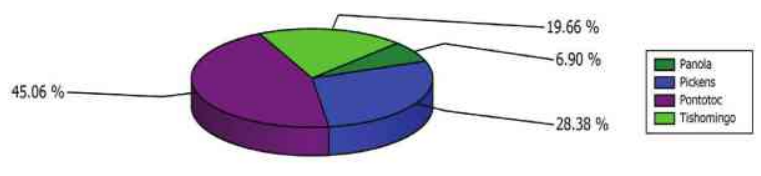
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature hereby approves the revision to the Development Budget for the Aa-Ashaachi', Project Number 20-0123-13 in the amount of $5,843,042.00.

Executed in regular session of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature, meeting at Ada, Oklahoma, on March 20, 2015, by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

Count of Voters by District

District	Count
Panola	2,113
Pickens	8,693
Pontotoc	13,803
Tishomingo	6,023
Total	**30,632**

Voters by District



FEBRUARY 2015 RESOLUTIONS

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-015
Approval of Development Budget Amendment
Violence Prevention Center

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article VII, Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature shall enact rules and regulations pertaining to the Chickasaw Nation, and shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition and management of real property, subject to federal law, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article XI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Governor shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of Chief Executive. He shall sign official papers on behalf of the Nation, and

WHEREAS, Section 10-201.4 of the Chickasaw Nation Code requires projects intended to develop tribal real property to be contained in a Development Budget, apart and separate from the Consolidated Governmental Budget, and

WHEREAS, the Governor has submitted the proposed revision to the Development Budget for the listed project in Exhibit A, and

WHEREAS, the requirements of Subsection 18-100.6(B) have been statutorily met by the Governor's submission of this revision to the Development Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature hereby approves a revision to the Development Budget for the Violence Prevention Center, Project Number 20-0135-14 in the amount of $4,915,870.00.

Executed in regular session of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature, meeting at Ada, Oklahoma, on March 20, 2015, by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-016
Approval of Development Budget Amendment
Women's Recovery Center

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article VII, Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature shall enact rules and regulations pertaining to the Chickasaw Nation, and shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition and management of real property, subject to federal law, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article XI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Governor shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of Chief Executive. He shall sign official papers on behalf of the Nation, and

WHEREAS, Section 10-201.4 of the Chickasaw Nation Code requires projects intended to develop tribal real property to be contained in a Development Budget, apart and separate from the Consolidated Governmental Budget, and

WHEREAS, the Governor has submitted the proposed revision to the Development Budget for the listed project in Exhibit A, and

WHEREAS, the requirements of Subsection 18-100.6(B) have been statutorily met by the Governor's submission of this revision to the Development Budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature hereby approves a revision to the Development Budget for the Women's Recovery Center, Project Number 20-0128-14 in the amount of $5,616,960.00.

Executed in regular session of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature, meeting at Ada, Oklahoma, on March 20, 2015, by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-017
To Amend General Resolution Number 32-003
(To Include a Corrected Property Description for the
Authorization for Acquisition of Real Property in Stephens County)

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article VII, Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature shall enact rules and regulations pertaining to the Chickasaw Nation, and shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition and management of real property subject to federal law, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article XI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Governor shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of Chief Executive. He shall sign official papers on behalf of the Nation, and

WHEREAS, this resolution amends General Resolution 32-003 to correct and more particularly describe the complete legal of a tract of land in Stephens County, Oklahoma, described as follows:

The South Half (S/2) of the Southeast Quarter (SE/4) of the Northeast Quarter (NE/4) of the Southeast Quarter (SE/4) of Section 6, T1N, R7W, I.M., Stephens County, Oklahoma.

together with all improvements thereon, if any, in their present condition, ordinary wear and tear excepted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that General Resolution 32-003 is hereby amended to replace the legal description for the purpose of more specifically identifying the complete legal description as requested by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for placing said tract of land into trust for the Chickasaw Nation.

Executed in regular session of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature, meeting at Ada, Oklahoma, on March 20, 2015, by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-018
Repeal and Replace General Resolution 31-013
Approving Water Pipeline Easement in Pittsburg County

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article VII, Sections 4 and 7 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature shall enact rules and regulations pertaining to the Chickasaw Nation, and shall make decisions pertaining to the acquisition, leasing, disposition and management of real property subject to federal law, and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Article XI, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Chickasaw Nation, the Governor shall perform all duties appertaining to the office of Chief Executive. He shall sign official papers on behalf of the Nation, and

WHEREAS, the City of McAlester has proposed an easement and right-of-way to relocate a twenty (20) inch potable water main on jointly owned tribal trust land from under Talawanda Lake #2 and routing around the east edge of the lake; approved in General Resolution 31-013, and

WHEREAS, the easement for the potable water pipeline contained a scrivener's error and should have been described as follows:

An easement for a water pipeline being 20 feet in width located in the S/2 of Section 13 and the N/2 of Section 24, all in Township 6 North, Range 14 East of the Indian Base and Meridian, Pittsburg County, State of Oklahoma, the centerline of said easement being described as follows:

Commencing at the NW Corner of the SW/4 of said Section 13; Thence S00°01'25"E along a line between said NW Corner of SW/4 and the SW Corner of the NW/4 of said Section 24 a distance of 1589.31 feet; thence N89°58'35"E a distance of 1673.10 feet to the Point Of Beginning; Thence N38°39'48"E a distance of 121.02 feet; thence N83°29'37"E a distance of 1321.46 feet; thence S74°23'56"E a distance of 1037.03 feet; thence S18°21'51"E a distance of 27.40 feet; thence S04°38'44"W a distance of 536.17 feet; thence S49°46'34"W a distance of1528.59 feet.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature hereby authorizes and approves the Repeal and Replacement of General Resolution 31-013 for a proposed potable water pipeline easement on jointly owned tribal trust land at Talawanda Lake #2 to the City of McAlester, Pittsburg County, State of Oklahoma, reaffirms approval of the easement and corrects the legal description.

Executed in regular session of the Chickasaw Tribal Legislature, meeting at Ada, Oklahoma, on March 20, 2015, by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

CHICKASAW TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
General Resolution Number 32-018
Repeal and Replace General Resolution 31-013
Approving Water Pipeline Easement in Pittsburg County

Explanation: This resolution repeals and replaces GR31-013 to reaffirm approval of the easement and correctly describe a water pipeline easement granted to the City of McAlester on jointly owned tribal trust land in Pittsburg County, State of Oklahoma. This correction is at the request of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Chickasaw Agency.

Property Location:	Talawanda Lake #2, Pittsburg County, Choctaw Nation
Use:	Potable water main pipeline (corrected legal description)
Presented By:	Land Development Committee

FEBRUARY 2015 LEGISLATIVE MINUTES

CHICKASAW NATION TRIBAL LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION
Legislature Building · Ada, Oklahoma
February 20, 2015

AGENDA ITEM #1 CALL MEETING TO ORDER
Chairperson Connie Barker called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2 ROLL CALL

Members present: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green (Late arrival, 9:03 a.m.), Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker

Staff present: Robert Cheadle, Legislative Counsel
Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary
Harold Stick, Sergeant-At-Arms

Guests present: Clint Hardson, Michael L. Wingo, Rita Loder, Christine John, Dana Lance, S. Ashley Large, Jerry Sellers

AGENDA ITEM #3 INVOCATION
Invocation was given by Mr. Woerz.

AGENDA ITEM #4 READING OF MINUTES - January 16, 2015
A motion was made by Mrs. Alexander and seconded by Ms. Case to approve the minutes of January 16, 2015.
(Ms. Green arrived.)
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker
13 yes votes
The motion to approve the minutes of January 16, 2015 carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM #5: UNFINISHED BUSINESS
There was no unfinished business.

AGENDA ITEM #6: REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

(A) LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair David Woerz
Permanent Resolution Number 32-001, Amendments to Title 16, Chapter 2 of the Chickasaw Nation Code (Special Advisory Committee)
This resolution amends the amount of a single transaction required to be approved by the Special Advisory Committee. The new amount matches the maximum amount that can be spent on a P-card in a single transaction.
A motion was made by Mr. Woerz and seconded by Ms. Briggs to approve PR32-001.

Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker
13 yes votes
The motion to approve PR32-001 carried unanimously.
Mr. Woerz concluded his report.

(B) FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Toby Perkins
General Resolution Number GR32-006, Approval of Development Budget Amendment Tishomingo Head Start

This resolution approves the amendment to the Development Budget for the Tishomingo Head Start, Project Number 20 0144 14, in the amount of $3,243,710. The Chickasaw Nation Head Start center is a both federally and tribally funded program that promotes school readiness of children from ages three to five years. The current Head Start facility is outdated and too small to serve the current demand for the Head Start program in Tishomingo. The new facility will be state of the art and provide a safe learning environment and enhance the learning experience through large classrooms, an indoor play area, which doubles as a safe room, and a large outdoor playground. The facility will be access controlled and have adequate security cameras throughout to ensure the children's safety.
A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Mr. Colbert to approve GR32-006.
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker
13 yes votes
The motion to approve GR32-006 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 32-007, Approval of Development Budget Amendment Renovation of Former Tishomingo Clinic
This resolution approves the amendment to the Development Budget for the Renovation of the Former Tishomingo Clinic, Project Number 20-0134-14 in the amount of $2,500,000.
This project consists of a complete renovation of the former Tishomingo Clinic to provide growth for the Area Office, provide much needed space for the Chickasaw Youth Club and office space for the Maintenance Department that will serve the expanding Tishomingo campus and other facilities in the area.
The Area Office is at full capacity and would benefit greatly being relocated to a larger section of the building to enable growth to better serve the Tishomingo area citizens. The area would consist of 10 offices, a conference room and a large reception area that would include two computer kiosks for citizen use.
The Youth Club has outgrown its current location and, therefore, cannot provide adequate activities for its 80-plus children. The new facility will give the center much needed space for a large indoor play area, computer room, Power Hour room, music room, craft room and library; an outdoor playground will provide an open play area, half-court basketball, four corners game and sitting area. In addition, the club will now have a designated dining room, which is also a safe room, and commercial style kitchen to better serve the children at meal time and eliminate mess in the activity rooms.
With the Tishomingo campus expansion and the various construction projects around the Capitol, the Maintenance Department needs office space with storage to work from in order to serve the area adequately. They will take care of landscaping, housekeeping and building maintenance.
A motion was made by Mr. Colbert and seconded by Ms. Briggs to approve GR32-007.
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker
13 yes votes
The motion to approve GR32-007 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 32-008, Approval of Development Budget Amendment
Tishomingo Senior Center

This resolution approves the amendment to the Development Budget for the Tishomingo Senior Center, Project Number 20-0142-14, in the amount of $2,286,960.00.
The Chickasaw Nation takes great pride in our elders and is always looking for ways to improve their quality of life as well as the rest of our citizens. The Senior Centers have various programs and workshops to help us reach this goal. The current Senior Center is outdated and not as well appointed as some of our newer facilities. The new Senior Center would be located on the expanding Tishomingo Campus. This location would be in closer proximity to the Wellness Center, proposed Elder Housing, and most importantly, the Health Clinic and, therefore, will better serve our senior citizens.
A motion was made by Mr. Wood and seconded by Ms. Green to approve GR32-008.
Members voting yes:
Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker
13 yes votes
The motion to approve GR32-008 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 32-009, Approval of Development Budget Amendment
Tishomingo Community Center

This resolution approves the amendment to the Development Budget for the Tishomingo Community Center, Project Number 20-0139-14 in the amount of $1,969,330.
Over the years, Chickasaw Community Centers have been on the front lines of serving Chickasaw citizens. With facilities located in the heart of many neighborhoods, these centers provide and connect people of all ages to essential services and solutions that help individuals, children, families and neighborhoods succeed by providing safe, inspiring, and well maintained community spaces. In addition to the amenities offered indoors, such as a kitchen area, large banquet area and state of the art A/V system, the Centers offer outdoor activity areas such as basketball courts, volley ball, horse shoe pits and picnic areas.
The proposed new Community Center will be located on the expanding Tishomingo campus where it will be in close proximity to the Wellness Center, Senior Center and Tishomingo Health Clinic. Chickasaw Community Centers provide an invaluable service to the Chickasaw Nation, its citizens and the community.
A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Mr. Wood to approve GR32-009.
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker
13 yes votes
The motion to approve GR32-009 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 32-010, Approval of Development Budget Amendment
Purcell Wellness Center

This resolution approves the amendment to the Development Budget for the Purcell Wellness Center, Project Number 20-0147-14A in the amount of $4,999,368.
The Chickasaw Nation Wellness Centers provide a place for Chickasaw citizens and employees to exercise and gain educational resources to learn how to live a healthy lifestyle. The Wellness centers provide education, mentoring, monitoring, incentive and access to activities that promote exercise, nutrition and overall improved health, including aerobics, weight training and swimming.
The Purcell area currently has minimal opportunities for residents to utilize workout facilities, and the proposed Wellness Center will offer the chance for them to choose a healthier lifestyle and hopefully get fit for life.
A motion was made by Mr. Perkins and seconded by Ms. Elliott to approve GR32-010.
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker
13 yes votes
The motion to approve GR32-010 carried unanimously.

General Resolution Number 32-011, Approval of Development Budget Amendment
Purcell Area Office

This resolution approves the amendment to the Development Budget for the Purcell Area Office, Project Number 20-0147-14B in the amount of $3,564,648.
Currently the Purcell Area Office is using a purchased retail building that we have outgrown and is not located on the Purcell campus. The Chickasaw Nation Area Office is where tribal citizens learn about Chickasaw Nation programs and services. Located in densely populated and convenient locations within jurisdictional boundaries of the Chickasaw Nation, the area office allows initial consultation and information gathering from tribal employees in one building.
This facility will also have a community center component for area citizens to use for events.
A motion was made by Ms. Green and seconded by Ms. Case to approve GR32-011.
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker
13 yes votes
The motion to approve GR32-011 carried unanimously.
Mr. Perkins concluded his report.

(C) LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Linda Briggs
General Resolution Number 32-012, Authorizing an Oil and Gas Lease to Silver Creek Oil and Gas, LLC On Jointly-owned Chickasaw Nation and Choctaw Nation Land in Hughes County
This resolution authorizes and approves an Oil and Gas Lease in favor of Silver Creek Oil and Gas, LLC., Irving, Texas. The lease will be for a primary term of three (3) years with a $3.00 per acre annual rent for a total of $105.87 per annum, of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive $26.47 per annum. The royalty rate is 18.75%, of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive 4.5625% for all future production. A bonus of $12,351.50.00 will be paid to the Nations, of which the Chickasaw Nation will receive $3,087.87. This lease will be automatically extended so long as oil or gas is harvested in "paying quantities." This lease is located in Hughes County and the minerals are jointly owned between the Choctaw Nation and the Chickasaw Nation, of which the Chickasaw Nation owns a one-quarter undivided interest.
A motion was made by Ms. Briggs and seconded by Mr. Colbert to approve GR32-012.
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker
13 yes votes
The motion to approve GR32-012 carried unanimously.
Ms. Briggs concluded her report.

(D) ELECTON RULES AND REGULATIONS AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORT by Committee Chair Steve Woods
Permanent Resolution Number 32-005, Amendments to Title 8 of the Chickasaw Nation Code (Elections and Campaigns)
This resolution corrects spelling and references to other sections in the Chickasaw Nation Code and amends the mailing date for ballots.
A motion was made by Mr. Woods and seconded by Mr. Wood to approve PR32-005.
Members voting yes: Beth Alexander, Linda Briggs, Katie Case, Tim Colbert, Nancy Elliott, Mary Jo Green, Shana Hammond, Dean McManus, Toby Perkins, David Woerz, Scott Wood, Steve Woods, Connie Barker
13 yes votes
The motion to approve PR32-005 carried unanimously.
Mr. Woods concluded his report.

AGENDA ITEM #7 NEW BUSINESS (Comments from Citizens)
There was no new business to discuss. Mrs. Alexander encouraged Legislators to review the service programs and consider increasing the amounts to meet the citizens needs. She also looked forward to expansion in Panola District. Chairperson Barker recognized Ms. Doretta Sellers for her 30 years of service with the Chickasaw Nation.

AGENDA ITEM #8 ADJOURNMENT
The Legislative Session adjourned at 9:22 a.m.

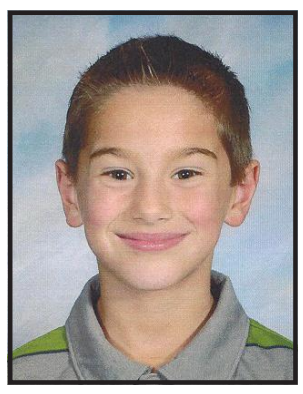
Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Elliott, Secretary
Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature

Prepared by:
Doretta Sellers, Recording Secretary
Chickasaw Nation Tribal Legislature

February 2015 Chickasaw Nation Outstanding Achievement Award Recipients

Adler Straub

Adler Straub, 8, son of Ian and Stephanie Straub, is a 2015 recipient of the Chickasaw Nation Outstanding Achievement Award.



Alder Straub

Adler is in the second grade at Latta School in Ada, Okla. He was nominated by his second-grade teacher, Linda Priest.

"Adler is a very responsible Honor Roll student. He stays on task and always completes his homework," Mrs. Priest said.

Adler's hobbies include watching football with his father, play catch with his big bother, puzzles, math and playing video games.

Adler's future goal is to work in a hospital, just like his mother.

Sabra Henderson

Sabra Henderson, 9, daughter of Kari Henderson and Justin Bowden, is a recipient of the 2015 Chickasaw Nation Outstanding Citizenship Award and Outstanding Academic Achievement Award.

Sabra is in the third grade at Tuttle Elementary School in Tuttle, Okla. She was nominated by her third-grade teacher, Malinda Kinsey.

"Sabra always works hard on her school work. She has an excellent attitude and is highly intelligent. I enjoy having her in class," Mrs. Kinsey said.

Sabra's hobbies include playing softball, reading and spending time with her family.

Sabra Henderson

"I love to make people smile and laugh," Sabra said. "I spend a lot of time practicing softball to work on my skills. I have an awesome dad who takes me to my pitching lessons. He always cheers for me even when I am having a bad day. My goal is to go to the University of Oklahoma and be in the OU softball league."

Sabra would like to become a scientist who discovers cures for the world.

Cassidy Porter

Cassidy Porter, 15, daughter of Catherine Factor and John Porter, is a recipient of the 2015 Outstanding Academic Award.

Cassidy is in the ninth grade at Latta School in Ada, Okla. She was nominated by her ninth-grade teacher, Kim Cupps.

Cassidy Porter

"Cassidy works hard on her academics and maintains a high grade-point average," Mrs. Cupps said. "She has competed in district STAR Events and has received first place. She has also served on many of the committees for our FCCLA service projects. Cassidy is highly involved with her community and volunteers for many coalitions and ministries. Cassidy is able to balance all of activities she participants in and still excels successfully in life. She is a proven leader."

Cassidy's hobbies include writing, singing, yoga, acting and running.

"I love spending time with my family and friends," Cassidy said. "I attend church at About the Father's Business in Ardmore. I also lead praise and worship at my church. I love participating in volunteer work when I have the opportunity. I am also involved in FCCLA, DECA and the Latta Academic Bowl Team."

Cassidy's future plan is to attend Columbia University School of Arts, to become a writer or a motivational speaker.

SaRai Sherman

SaRai Sherman, 10, daughter of Charel Young and Paul Sherman, is a recipient of the 2015 Chickasaw Honor Club Outstanding Achievement Award.

SaRai Sherman

SaRai is in the fourth grade at ICAN University of Cleveland Preparatory School in Cleveland, Ohio. She was nominated by her fourth-grade teacher, R.J. Williams.

"SaRai is one of my most outstanding scholars with merit and academics," Mr. Williams said.

SaRai's hobbies include dancing and playing board games.

"I received the Principal's List Certificate for emonstrating excellence in academics," SaRai said. "I have also received the Principal's Award medal."

SaRai's future plan is to study and maintain her excellent grades.

Kamryn Holland

Kamryn Holland, 11, daughter of Dan and Amy Holland, is the 2015 recipient of the Outstanding Achievement in Music Award and the Outstanding Academic Achievement Award.

Kamryn Holland

Kamryn is in the fifth grade at Piedmont Intermediate School in Piedmont, Okla. She was nominated by her fifth-grade teacher, Amy Brezina.

"Kamryn is a model student," Mrs. Brezina said. "She excels in all of the academic subjects. She is responsible, respectful, honest and kind. These traits make her a leader in the classroom. We are very fortunate to have the opportunity to work with exceptional students like Kamryn at Piedmont Intermediate School."

Kamryn hobbies include playing soccer, reading, piano, playing outside with her dogs and swimming.

"I am very social and a hard worker. I enjoy playing with my family and friends," Kamryn said.

Kamryn's future plan is to become a nurse.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carmen Carter, Public Affairs.

Eagle Adventure program provides nutrition, activity books for kids

We all know healthy habits and physical activity are important for school-age children. Now, a tribal nutrition outreach program has been expanded to include after-school kids.

The Eagle Adventure Program uses storytelling and other traditional methods to get information on good nutrition out to kids. The program is operated through Chickasaw Nation Nutrition Services and reaches young students throughout the Chickasaw Nation.

Eagle Adventure is a collaboration between the Chickasaw Nation Nutrition Services Get Fresh! Program and the Oklahoma State University Department of Nutritional Sciences. The program is federally-funded through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Education program.

The Notah Begay III Foundation recently awarded Eagle Adventure additional funding to expand the program to after-school students. The grant was awarded through the foundation's national initiative, Native Strong: Healthy Kids, Healthy Futures.

The Notah Begay III Foundation was established in 2005 as a non-profit organization supporting health and wellness among Native American children. The goal of the foundation is to empower youth and help them realize their potential as the leaders of tomorrow.

By introducing hands-on lessons and discussions about the importance of healthy eating and physical activity, Eagle Adventure improves the health and nutrition of youth who are increasingly at risk of developing type 2 diabetes.

Eagle Adventure's message is that diabetes can be prevented with proper diet and physical activity.

This semester, Chickasaw Nation Eagle Adventure Educators are working with children in grades 1-3 Stratford, Stonewall and Wanette, and the after-school programs at Stonewall school and the Chickasaw Nation after-school program.

CONTRIBUTED BY Amber Carey, Public Affairs.

Together we can prevent diabetes!
Eagle Adventure
Mr. Eagle's Nest
Chukma!
Mr. Eagle's Nest is a place to share tips for keeping your body strong and healthy.
Tune in to KCNP 89.3 FM Wednesdays around 7:35 am and 4:35 pm to hear more about Mr. Eagle and his friends.
Water is a great drink choice everyday!
Water has kept our bodies healthy for generations. The Chickasaw word for water is oka'. Choose water at breakfast, lunch, dinner and snack time.
Try adding fresh lemon, lime or orange wedges to your water for added flavor. Reach for a glass of water when you are thirsty. Your body will thank you!
Here's a funny joke to share with your friends:
Why did the lemon stop halfway across the road?
It ran out of juice!
We want to hear what's happening in your nest!
Visit www.eagleadventure.com or call 580-272-5596 to share what fruit or vegetable snacks you enjoy or tell us your favorite recipe!

Document shredding event April 24 in Ada

ADA, Okla. - The Chickasaw Nation Office of Environmental Services will host a document shredding and recycling event at the ReUse center, located at 2205 N. Broadway in Ada, on Friday, April 24.

A shredding truck will be onsite from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (or until full) to immediately shred documents for recycling. This event is free and open to the public, with businesses welcome.

Among items accepted for shredding include manila folders and files, paper and envelopes of any color or grade, sticky notes, note pads, surveys, blue prints, financial records, junk mail or any other paper document.

The ReUse Center will also be open that day to accept new and gently used household items and building materials for redistribution to the community. Regular hours for the ReUse center, which is open to the public, are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Private companies and individuals are encouraged to drop off reusable items and clothing that would otherwise go to the landfill.

For more information about the Chickasaw Nation Reuse Center, call (580) 272-5400 or (580) 272-5451.

Expired prescription drugs are not accepted at this event, though they can be very harmful to the environment when not properly discarded. For locations of drug drop boxes in Pontotoc County, visit www.pcdfc.org.

Spring Music Concert April 11 at the McSwain

ADA, Okla. - Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities will host a Spring Music Concert at 7 p.m., Saturday, April 11 at 7 p.m., at the McSwain Theatre, 130 W. Main, Ada.

The Spring Music concert will feature classical and contemporary music performed by the Chickasaw Children's Choir and School of Guitar.

For more information, contact Arts & Humanities at (580) 272-5520.

CHICKASAW WEST

ANNUAL CHICKASAW GATHERING
SANTEE LAKES, CA
SPONSORED BY CHICKASAW WEST

COME SPEND TIME WITH YOUR CHICKASAW FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

WHERE: SANTEE LAKES, SANTEE, CALIF.
619-596-3141
PICNIC AREA L (IN THE BACK)

WHEN: SATURDAY, JUNE 6 , 2015
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS AND BEVERAGES WILL BE SERVED AT 12 NOON

PLEASE BRING A FOOD DISH TO SHARE

WE PLAN TO HAVE MEMBERS OF THE CHICKASAW LEGISLATURE AT THE GATHERING

ENTRANCE FEE IS $ 5.00 PER VEHICLE. PARKING IS NEXT TO THE PICNIC AREA.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO BRING LAWN CHAIRS.
THERE WILL BE COVERED AREAS IN CASE OF RAIN/HOT TEMPERATURES.

FISHING, PADDLE BOAT AND CANOE RENTALS ARE AVAILABLE.

SANTEE LAKES IS WITHIN 60 MINUTES OR LESS OF SEVERAL SAN DIEGO ATTRACTIONS. YOU MAY WISH TO PLAN YOUR WEEKEND IN THE AREA. PLEASE CALL SANTEE LAKES FOR INFO REGARDING FISHING, CAMPING & RV 619-596-3141

FOR MORE INFO CALL SHARON TANDY 818-985-8392 OR 818-378-3295

FOR DIRECTIONS PLEASE CALL SHARON TANDY OR SANTEE LAKES.

Siblings make Chickasaw Nation Martial Arts Program a family tradition

The Shackleford siblings from left to right: Amanda Johns, 24; Dale, 15; Katie, 18; Brooke, 21; and Skye, 21.

The Shackleford family is known around the Chickasaw Nation for its involvement in the Martial Arts and the Chickasaw Language. Keith and Mary Shackleford are the proud parents of Brooke, Skye, Katie, Dale Shackleford and Amanda Johns, all involved with the Chickasaw Nation Martial Arts Program for over 10 years. Keith is the Chickasaw Nation Instructor for the Chickasaw Language Class in Purcell, Oklahoma. Martial arts is taught in the same facility.

"All of our children are involved in the Chickasaw Nation Martial Arts Program," Mr. Shackleford said. "They have all been involved with the program since they were children."

Skye Shackleford, 21

The Shackleford siblings are currently active in the Martial Arts Program. Amanda Johns, 24, the oldest sibling, is a part-time Martial Arts Specialist for the Chickasaw Nation. Amanda has a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education from East Central University. She enjoys teaching martial arts, especially the Little Warriors and the Children's Classes.

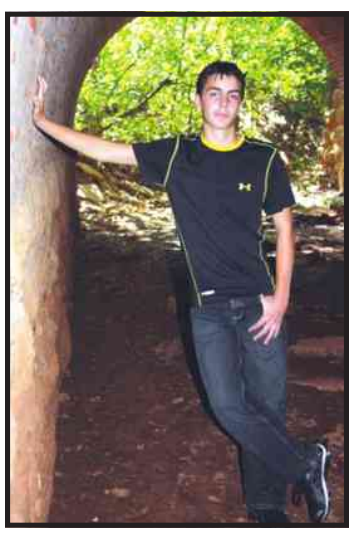
"They absorb the language and techniques quickly in the children classes," Amanda said. "It's great to see them grow out of the shyness of participating and develop that confidence in class."

The martial arts program gives students an opportunity to meet other children or teens at martial arts tournaments.

"At first, I wasn't interested in martial arts," Amanda said. "I just wanted to read books. After I saw my siblings, Skye, Brooke and Dale in the classes, I joined them. Even my mom was attending the classes for a while."

With every belt level, the disciplines and challenges change. The Chickasaw Nation Martial Arts Program teaches students honesty, to show pride in their country, respect their elders, politeness, to accomplish every task to the best of their ability, to find happiness through truth, discipline, to challenge themselves and to live healthy balanced lives. The Chickasaw language is also taught in every class and associated with every move. This is extremely helpful for the coaches during tournaments to camouflage techniques they are communicating to the student.

Katie Shackleford, 18



Dale Shackleford, 15

The siblings said they were more confident and focused when they started martial arts. They also said they saw certain concepts that are taught in martial arts in their daily routine.

Katie Shackleford, 18, is a sophomore at Redlands Community College in El Reno, Okla., and is still active in martial arts.

"I've been in the martial arts program for more than half of my life," Katie said. "I've taken away more than the techniques that are being taught. Martial arts builds your confidence, courage and determination in life."

Brooke, 21, is the Martial Arts Specialist for the Purcell martial arts program, and occasionally helps out with the program in Ada with Sensi Matt Clark and Martial Arts Specialist Matt Guzman. She is also a senior at Oklahoma City Community College.

Skye Shackleford, 21, is still active in martial arts as a substitute instructor for the Purcell martial arts program. She is also a pet groomer in Lexington, Okla.

Brooke and Skye Shackleford are twins. They even share the same martial art techniques.

"Every time we had to spar together, we would do the same move," Brooke said. "We tried to not spar with each other, because we knew exactly which move would come first."

The youngest sibling, Dale, 15, is currently attending the martial arts classes at the Purcell Area Office. He has participated in a demonstration team since 2007. The demonstration team travels across the state displaying different martial arts demonstrations including, katas, take-downs and choreographed fights.

"I remember watching the classes through my dad's office window," Dale said. "That is when I realized I wanted to start taking martial art classes."

All the siblings began their training at the Purcell Area Office and they all have black belts, except Dale. Specializing in Shotokan Karate and Tae Won Do, he currently has a brown belt.

Amanda Johns, 24

"It's taken me eight years to accomplish the brown belt," Dale said. "Achieving the belts between white and orange stripe depends on your techniques and physical abilities. You have to learn your katas and learn your marches. Every belt test is different."

The 2006 Indigenous Games in Colorado is the biggest event in which the Shackleford siblings have competed. Every four years, the Indigenous Games has a sporting event for youth ages 13-19. The event consists of 15 sporting events, including martial arts. According to the siblings, this was a memorable moment for them, because the parents and grandparents got to attend.

Brooke Shackleford, 21

"It was great to see that family was here to support all of us at this event," Brooke said.

The Chickasaw Nation Martial Arts Program provides children and their families a healthy recreational activity outside of school and the home.

The program is available in five locations: Ada, Kingston, Purcell, Ardmore and Sulphur. Little Warriors is the children's program offered in the Chickasaw Nation Martial Arts Program for ages three to six. A Kids' Class is open for ages seven to 15. The Adult Classes are open to those age 16 and up. The classes cover Judo, Shotokan Karate, Tae Kwon Do and Kit Ryu Ju Jitsu. The program is free to Chickasaw citizens and tribal employees. Other interested participants enroll for $20 per month.

CONTRIBUTED BY Carmen Carter, Public Affairs.

Chickasaw Press accepting entries for 2015 Chickasaw Nation Heritage Preservation and Ofi' Tohbi' (White Dog) Awards

The Chickasaw Press is accepting entries for the 2015 Chickasaw Nation Heritage Preservation Awards and Ofi' Tohbi' (White Dog) Awards.

Chickasaw Nation Heritage Preservation Awards recognize authors who document Chickasaw history and culture through non-fiction and scholarly work. The Ofi' Tohbi' Awards celebrate authors exploring similar Chickasaw themes through fiction, poetry or other creative genres.

Both award programs encourage and inspire authors to expand the scope of written work related to Chickasaw history, heritage and culture.

Entries will be considered in the following categories:

Heritage Preservation Awards:

- Best Unpublished Article – Prize: Publication in The Journal of Chickasaw History and Culture, lecture at the Chickasaw Cultural Center, and a $2,000 research stipend.
- Best Master's Thesis – Prize: Visiting Scholar Fellowship, lecture at the Chickasaw Cultural Center, and a $2,000 research stipend.
- Best Ph.D. Dissertation – Prize: Visiting Scholar Fellowship, lecture at the Chickasaw Cultural Center, and a $2,000 research stipend.
- Best Unpublished Manuscript – Prize: The Holisso Award, publication by the Chickasaw Press, lecture at the Chickasaw Cultural Center, and a $2,000 research stipend.

Ofi' Tohbi' (White Dog) Awards:

- Iholba ("vision") Award for children's books –Publication by White Dog Press and a $1,000 stipend.
- Ikbi ("to create") Award for full-length fiction manuscripts –Publication by White Dog Press and a $1,000 stipend.
- Chonkash Aaminti ("to come from the heart") Award for poetry – Publication in The Journal of Chickasaw History and Culture and a $500 stipend.
- Anoli ("to tell a story") Award for short stories - Publication in The Journal of Chickasaw History and Culture and a $500 stipend.

All entries must be previously unpublished and deal specifically with some aspect of Chickasaw history, culture or language. Non-fiction submissions for Heritage Preservation Awards must be documented, either through the use of footnotes, endnotes or a listing of sources.

Entries can be submitted to: Wiley Barnes, Chickasaw Press Director, 1315 Hoppe Blvd., Ada, OK 74820 or emailed to info@chickasawpress.com.

Mailed entries should include two copies of the work being submitted. All entries should include the author's name and contact information and should clearly indicate for which award program and category the work is to be considered.

Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m., Friday, Aug. 14, 2015. The awards will be presented during the Chickasaw Arts and Culture Awards Ceremony.

For more information, call Chickasaw Press at (580) 436-7282.

CONTRIBUTED BY Kristen Gill, Public Affairs.

Chickasaw named Communities Foundation of Oklahoma executive

OKLAHOMA CITY – Dr. Randy K. Macon has been named executive director of Communities Foundation of Oklahoma (CFO), the organization announced this month.

Dr. Macon, a Chickasaw citizen, is an experienced nonprofit administrator and researcher. Prior to joining CFO, Dr. Macon served as vice president of research, initiatives and community investment for the United Way of Central Oklahoma and served on the program staff at the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation.

Dr. Macon holds a Ph.D. and master's degree from the University of Oklahoma. He is a member of Leadership Oklahoma Class 25, Leadership Tulsa Class 40 and was named a Journal Record "Achiever Under 40" in 2012.

"Randy's combination of experience and enthusiasm is a perfect fit for CFO and the organizations we serve," CFO president Frank Merrick said. "His hands-on, practical knowledge, coupled with his academic research background, make Randy a valuable addition to our team."

Communities Foundation of Oklahoma is a nonprofit organization that supports Oklahoma communities by meeting the needs of charitable organizations and donors statewide.

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.

License plate rebates coming soon

You may have noticed Chickasaw Nation license plates on Oklahoma roads and highways recently. The overwhelming support and enthusiasm for the plates has been fantastic!

The Chickasaw Nation expects to receive rebate information for all February vehicle tag transactions from the state of Oklahoma very soon.

Rebate checks will be issued to individual citizens at that time. The tribe is working with the state on a more efficient and timely rebate process.

For more information about Chickasaw Nation license plates, visit Chickasaw.net/LicensePlate.

Annual Children's Fair set for May 2 in Ada

ADA, Okla. – To celebrate children and bring awareness to the issue of child abuse, the Chickasaw Nation will host the 14th Annual Children's Fair at the Agri-Plex in Ada on May 2.

The Children's Fair offers information regarding child abuse and neglect prevention, a talent show, martial arts demonstrations and many other activities for children and families.

Education and support of healthy families will reduce the number of child abuse victims.

Did You Know?:

2013 Oklahoma Department of Human Services Annual Report on Child Welfare Services:

- 128,024 children were alleged to be victims of abuse and neglect
- 11,418 children were substantiated to be victims of child abuse and neglect
- 10,233 children were in custody at the end of the fiscal year

2014 Children's Advocacy Center Statistics: (National Children's Alliance)

According to information gathered from Children's Advocacy Centers, who served more than 315,000 children around the country in 2014:

- 116,940 children were ages 0 to 6 years
- 115,959 children were ages 7 to 12 years
- 81,025 children were ages 13 to 18 years

Among the more than 244,000 alleged offenders investigated for instances of child abuse in 2014:

- 95,913 were a parent or step-parent of the victim
- 127,358 were related or known to the child victim in another way
- 23,696 were an unrelated person the victim knew

For more information about this event or to sponsor a booth, contact Deanna Carpitche: (580) 310-7993 or Deanna.carpitche@chickasaw.net.

To report child abuse in Oklahoma, call (800) 522-3511.
Nationwide, the number to report child abuse is 1(800) 4-A-Child.

Chickasaw Hall of Fame reservations begin April 6

NORMAN, Okla. - A historic preservationist, a humanitarian, a protector of the Chickasaw language and a spiritual leader make up the 2015 class of the Chickasaw Nation Hall of Fame.

Reservations for the event may be made beginning April 6.

Induction ceremonies will be at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, May 7 at Riverwind Showplace Theatre in Norman.

Governor Bill Anoatubby will take part in the ceremony inducting the new class of honorees.

Thelma "Chincie" Ross, Homer Paul, Rose Shields Jefferson and the late Rev. Jefferson Davis "Sonny" Frazier will be inducted into the Hall of Fame.

"As we induct these worthy individuals into the Hall of Fame we pay tribute to the indomitable spirit they have displayed throughout their lives," Gov. Anoatubby said. "While each of these individuals is unique, each share an uncommon passion for life. All the inductees used their passion to do great things. These men and women remind us that true success is measured by the positive impact we have on others."

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. The banquet will begin at 6 p.m.

There is no charge to attend, but reservations are required for the event, which is expected to include approximately 525 guests.

To make reservations beginning April 6, contact Brielle Helm at (580) 436-7258 or email brielle.helm@chickasaw.net.

Induction into the Chickasaw Hall of Fame is the highest honor bestowed upon a Chickasaw by the Chickasaw Nation. For more information about the Chickasaw Hall of Fame, visit www.chickasaw.net.

Chickasaw Foundation presents service awards, announces scholarship award recipients

Chickasaw Foundation Annual Meeting

The Chickasaw Foundation conducted its annual meeting on February 5 at the Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities Building. Officers elected for 2015 are Chairman Dr. Judy Goforth Parker; Vice-Chairman Dr. Tina Cooper; Treasurer Holly Easterling; and Secretary Kirk Perry. The trustees are Governor Bill Anoatubby, Kennedy Brown (Chairman Emeritus), John Fryrear, Lisa John, Deanna Hartley-Kelso and Bill Lance.

Service awards were presented during the meeting. Chairman Emeritus Kennedy Brown received his 20-year plaque. Lisa John, Nathan Hart and Deanna Hartley-Kelso were presented their 15-year plaques. Congratulations to each of them!

Deanna Hartley-Kelso with her Chickasaw Foundation 15-year service award.

Gov. Bill Anoatubby, left, and Dr. Tina Cooper present Chairman Emeritus Kennedy Brown with his 20-year service award on behalf of the Chickasaw Foundation.

Chickasaw Foundation Announces Scholarship Recipients

Ms. Heather Sheaffer, recipient of the Chickasaw Foundation Nonprofit Management Scholarship.

The Chickasaw Foundation has announced Heather Scheaffer as the spring 2015 recipient of the Chickasaw Foundation Nonprofit Management Scholarship. Ms. Scheaffer is a graduate student at the University of Indiana pursuing a master of library science degree and an information science degree.

Mr. Payton Whitehead, recipient of the Chickasaw Foundation Grants.

Ms. Tashia West, recipient of the Mitch Musgrove Memorial Scholarship.

Payton Whitehead is the spring 2015 recipient of the Chickasaw Foundation Grants. He is a freshman biology major at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Tashia West is the spring 2015 recipient of the Mitch Musgrove Memorial Scholarship. She is a sophomore business major at Spokane University.

Chickasaw Foundation's ECCP Champion of the Month

Dr. John Garber – Dr. Garber has donated to the Employee Charitable Contribution Plan (ECCP) since the development of the ECCP form and has increased his giving throughout the years. He oversees the day-to-day operations of the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center Eye Clinic.

Dr. Garber also served three and one-half years as an advisory board member for the Chickasaw Foundation. Our appreciation goes to Dr. Garber for all he does for the Foundation and the difference he makes in the lives of others.

Dr. John Garber is Chickasaw Foundation's ECCP Champion of the Month.

Chickasaw Foundation's Donor of the Month

Colbert Latimer "Bud" Baker is the founder of Chickasaw Distributors, Inc., an officially recognized Native American company. Chickasaw Distributors specializes in drill pipes and tubular products manufactured specifically for Shell Oil's Gulf region.

Mr. Baker was born in 1924 and has distinguished himself through his military service, professional success and contributions to the Chickasaw Nation.

Mr. Baker served during World War II and the Korean conflict aboard the USS Toledo and the USS Los Angeles. He retired from the service as a lieutenant.

Mr. Baker embodies the entrepreneurial spirit of his heritage by leading his family-owned company. Chickasaw Distributors and generating more than $200 million in annual revenue. He has used his financial success to give back and have a positive influence on the progress of the Chickasaw Nation. He has made generous donations to the Chickasaw Foundation, enabling talented young Chickasaw students to attain their educational aspirations.

Colbert Latimer "Bud" Baker was inducted into the Chickasaw Hall of Fame in 2013 for his generosity and notable contributions to the Chickasaw people. Mr. Baker said, "Never say anything that doesn't benefit someone."

Accomplishments:

·Established the Colbert "Bud" Baker Scholarship through the Chickasaw Foundation

·Awarded Chickasaw Foundation's "Outstanding Philanthropist" in 2003 and 2004

·Decorated U.S. Naval Officer

·Former President Dallas North Texas Rotary Club

·Former President University of Oklahoma Alumni Club

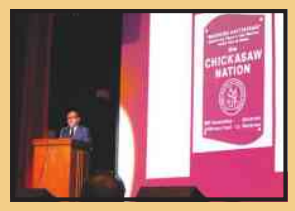
·Former President Car and Truck Leasing Association of Texas

·Former Executive Secretary National Truck Leasing System Dallas Executive Association

·Former Executive Secretary Sales and Marketing Executives of Dallas.

Colbert Latimer "Bud" Baker is the founder of Chickasaw Distributors, Inc. and Chickasaw Foundation's Donor of the Month.

New Davis High School auditorium named in honor of Chickasaw woman



Gov. Bill Anoatubby and Chickasaw Hall of Fame member Irene Digby at the March 8 dedication ceremony of the new Davis (OK) High School Auditorium, the Dorothy Jameson Performing Arts Center. The auditorium is now known as Nashoba Aaittafama, or "Gathering Place for Wolves." Mrs. Digby, a Chickasaw storyteller and teacher of the Chickasaw language, graduated from Davis High School in 1942 and believed strongly in the district's need for a modern facility. The facility was built in her honor and a plaque recognizing Mrs. Digby is placed in the auditorium's entrance.

Update to chickasaw.net enhances accesibility

Chickasaw.net now features an all new search tool so you can easily find services you need. An improved locations tab provides a quick search or filtering option for locating tribal facilities throughout the Chickasaw Nation.

The site is now mobile friendly making it easier than ever to navigate via your smartphone or tablet.

Be sure to register with the new login feature that allows you quick access to any of the tribe's electronic services, including grants and scholarships and CDIB and citizenship forms. Once logged in, you are able to access your account panel where you can update your information as well as access any of the available e-services.

Accepting applications for Chickasaw Youth Cultural Council

Chickasaw Nation History and Culture is accepting applications for the inaugural Chickasaw Youth Cultural Council.

Chickasaw Youth Cultural Council is open to Chickasaw citizens in grades 7 – 12. The council strives to build future leaders and mentors and to generate youth interest in Chickasaw history, culture and language.

Meetings will be in the Holisso building at the Chickasaw Cultural Center, Sulphur, Okla.

Cultural Council members will receive information on Chickasaw Nation history, as well as learn:

- Language from Chickasaw elders
- To make cultural items from masters artists
- Stomp dancing
- Shell shaking
- Leading songs

The first scheduled meeting will be April 11 from 8:45 a.m. to 5 p.m., Chickasaw National Capitol, 411 W. 9th, Tishomingo, Okla. Transportation from Ada will be provided.

For more information on the Chickasaw Youth Cultural Council, please contact Andrea Mann, at (580) 272-3557 or andrea.mann@chickasaw.net.

WIC program offers nutrition, more

The Chickasaw Nation Women, Infants and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC) extends its services to families who need encouragement and support in feeding their children. The Chickasaw Nation WIC offers up-to-date specialized nutrition education along with an expanded food package for growing children from the prenatal period up to age five. The program puts families' feeding concerns first and works with individuals to provide the very best for their growing children. It also helps participants improve their diet, get immunizations and health care if needed as well as encourages women to breastfeed.

Through nutrition education, counseling, support and encouragement, the Chickasaw Nation WIC staff connects with families to assist them in improving and enhancing the quality of their lives. An appointment is just a phone call away and services are available to those who meet the following guidelines:

- Are currently pregnant or breastfeeding
- Have had a baby in the past six months or have a child up to five years of age
- Meet WIC income guidelines
- Have a nutritional screening at the WIC office to determine if they are at nutritional risk
- Are currently homeless; homeless persons will be served immediately upon request if the above criteria are met.

Funded by the United States Department of Agriculture, the program has been serving the community for more than 30 years. Currently, the program serves the needs of more than 4000 participants.

Chickasaw Nation WIC benefits are issued utilizing a magnetic stripe card known as Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card. The card is the first of its kind to be used among the Oklahoma WIC agencies and works just like a debit or credit card. It replaces the traditional paper check or voucher and gives families freedom of purchasing the WIC food they need with each trip to the store.

A WIC food package includes milk, cheese, yogurt, fruit juice, eggs, cereal, whole grains, canned fish, peanut butter, beans/peas as well as fresh and frozen fruits and vegetables. Infant foods are also offered and formula for infants is provided if needed. Enhanced food packages are offered to breastfeeding women and peer counselors are available to assist them in having a successful breastfeeding experience.

In the summer months, the participants are eligible for Farmers' Market Nutrition Program checks for the purchase of Oklahoma-grown fresh fruits and vegetables from authorized farmers markets and farm stands throughout the Chickasaw Nation and surrounding areas.

For more information about the WIC program please call 1-855-559-0985.

Injunuity to perform at McSwain

ADA, Okla. – Native American band "Injunuity" will present a live performance at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 2 at the McSwain Theatre in Ada.

The band's Feb. 28 show was cancelled due to inclement weather.

"Injunuity" began in 2007 as the duo of Jeff Carpenter (Chickasaw) on acoustic guitar and Brad Clonch (Mississippi Choctaw) playing native flute. They are Native American Music (NAMMYS) award winners. The band's first NAMMY came in 2008 with the debut compact disc Unconquered for which they won Debut Group of the Year. In 2010, a second NAMMY was claimed by Mr. Carpenter and Mr. Clonch for Songwriter(s) of the Year.

Two new members - Phillip Sullivan, bass guitarist, and Brian Harrison, percussionist - joined the band in 2013. These members have native roots as well. A special guest will join the group. Shaun DeGraff will be the featured vocalist and also will make musical contributions on piano.

For ticket information, contact the McSwain office at (580) 332-8108 or at http://www.mcswaintheatre.com Follow theatre updates on Facebook at Facebook.com/McSwain Theatre or on Twitter at Twitter.com/McSwainTheatre.

The McSwain Theatre, owned and operated by the Chickasaw Nation, is at 130 W. Main in Ada.

Tribe fields adult, youth squads

Stickball has long, storied Chickasaw Nation history

Chickasaws have a long history of playing the traditional game of stickball.

Stickball, known as "little brother of war," has been handed down from generation to generation. It was historically played to settle conflicts over land and politics among Native American tribes. When a dispute arose, elder tribal leaders would meet and decide on a location to play rather than fight a war. This time-honored game was usually played by men and is steeped in ceremonial tradition.

"To be able to carry on what they did and pass it on to our next generation is important to me and our Chickasaw culture," Ric Greenwood, Chickasaw Nation Language Outreach Specialist and co-captain of Chikasha Toli, said. "Playing stickball creates a sense of tribal identity and makes me feel like the warriors of our ancestors."

Chikasha Toli members compete in a stickball match at the Chickasaw Cultural Center.

Chickasaws still play this game today. Sometimes it is for fun at a festival or celebration, sometimes in competition at games and tournaments. These games are great ways of providing cultural enrichment while keeping stickball alive in the Chickasaw Nation.

Stickball is played on a field similar to an American football field. Two poles, placed 100 yards apart, are the scoring focus. An equal number of people per team toss a ball in the air and the game begins. Players use stickball sticks to hurl the ball down the field to teammates, who then hit or touch the pole to score points. Make no mistake. This game is normally a rough and tumble grudge match.

There are three types of stickball games. The first is the social game, played among men and women around a single pole, where men use sticks and women use hands. The second is the ceremonial east-west game, played only by men. The third is the modern field game, played among men and women, all players using sticks, with a specific set of rules and field dimensions as set forth by the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians.

The Chickasaw Nation provides stickball opportunities for all citizens and the community. The tribe currently fields two competitive teams, one for youth and one for the adults.

Players for Chikasha Bak Bak, the Chickasaw youth team, range in age from eight to 17. The team is currently playing its first year in a league, as well as coordinating games with the Chikasha Toli (adult) team. Chikasha Bak Bak is the starting point to learning the rules and necessary skills of the game in order to transition to the Chikasha Toli team.

"Playing a game that our ancestors played for war, water rights and hunting lands is a great honor," Jonas Manley, Chikasha Toli offense and defense player, said. "There's a big difference between the game we play and their battles back then. When I play, I play hard, knowing our Chikasha ancestors are enjoying themselves looking down upon us, keeping stickball alive. Chikasha Bak Bak is making a big impact on the youth of all tribes."

Chikasha Toli, the adult team, is for players age 18 and up. The team practices twice a week and plays in exhibition games, tournaments and festivals. Chikasha Toli players actively mentor the Bak Bak players by setting examples on the field, helping with the teams at practice, assisting with coaching, and working as chaperones to and from events.

They also provide teaching and assistance and answer any questions a Bak Bak player may have about stickball. The importance of this shows how players today are interested and want to help young Chickasaws become good stickball players, and help establish team unity for future Chikasha Toli players.

"I play because of the love of the game," Chikasha Toli offense shooter Adrian John said. "Until college I'd always heard about it, but never really saw it before. Once I started playing, I was hooked. I played other sports in my lifetime, but nothing compares to the love I have for this game."

Scheduled games will be played at the Chickasaw Reunion May 1-2, and at the Chickasaw Nation Annual Meeting and Festival in October. An adult tournament will be played Labor Day weekend in Tuskahoma, Oklahoma.

For more information on the Chickasaw teams, contact Clovis Hamilton for Chikasha Bak Bak at (580) 310-9536 or Amber Fox for Chikasha Toli at (580) 272-5320.

CONTRIBUTED BY Kristen Gill, Public Affairs.

Eye clinics partner with national universities, train future doctors

People who choose to become doctors are inquisitive by nature and enjoy learning. Education is truly a lifelong pursuit. According to Dr. John Garber, optometrist at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center, this pursuit includes internships.

"One of the best benefits of the internship program is the knowledge we are able to pass on to optometry students," Dr. Garber said. "I have been an optometrist for nearly 40 years. This program is one of the reasons I choose not to retire. I feel like I am passing on a lifetime of experience, they (students) are like a legacy."

Since 1980, the Eye Clinics of the Chickasaw Nation have helped hundreds of optometry students from around the country attain their dreams of becoming optometrists.

Dr. Garber says optometry students from as far away as New York, Pennsylvania, Missouri and Arizona travel to Eye Clinics to take part in a two month rotation at Chickasaw facilities. The rotation also includes stints at Veteran Administration eye clinics, free clinics in inner-cities and other Indian Health Service clinics across the country.

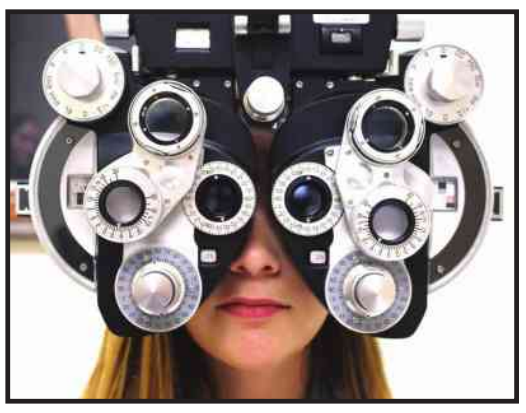
"Optometry students like to come to the Medical Center," Dr. Garber said. "The clinic offers them a large number of patients with ocular diseases they might not otherwise be exposed to. Our population (Native American) has higher incidents of diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma and cataracts. Being in a hospital with other health clinics, our students have the advantage of being exposed to multidisciplinary treatments of eyesight problems. It is really a first class opportunity."

Participants, who are in their final year of optometry school and specialize in primary care, are each scheduled to see eight patients a day. Interns conduct the initial eye exams of patients and prepare their findings for the staff optometrist for review. Staff optometrist then exam the patient themselves and evaluate the externs initial diagnosis and findings.

The additional manpower provided by the interns allows the Eye Clinics to see and estimated 250 additional patients a month.

"Our patients receive great care from the externs and like visiting with them. They are in their final year of optometry school, they are excited to see patients. They (patients) are really receiving double the care since they are evaluated by both the extern and the doctor," Dr. Garber said. "They come from universities and programs from across the country, keeping us on our toes. Staff optometrists have to stay current to train these folks."

Jessica Price allows fellow optometry students at the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center Eye Clinic to place dye in her eyes for testing.



For nearly 35 years The Eye Clinics of the Chickasaw Nation have helped hundreds of optometry students from across the country attain their dreams of becoming optometrists.

Optometrists at the vision clinics are adjunct professors at the University of Missouri St. Louis. They evaluate and monitor the externs' progress while at the vision clinics, and ultimately determine the students future as doctors.

Dr. Garber believes the externship programs are a tremendous recruitment tool for Native American clinics. Currently, five of the seven optometrists working in the clinics participated in Indian Health Service externships.

While not a paid position, there are many amenities available to optometry interns while students are completing their studies at Chickasaw facilities. During the two month rotation, optometry interns reside in the same living quarters as Chickasaw students interning for the tribe, when available.

University of Missouri St. Louis College of Optometry students Aaryn McComb and Jessica Price familiarize themselves with the optometry equipment at the Eye Clinic. According to Ms. McComb, the Eye Clinic has "top tier" equipment to work with.

"We have developed a great working relationship with the universities that provide interns," Dr. Garber said. "Frequently the Chickasaw Nation Health System is the universities go-to site. Over the years they have stayed in the dormitories at East Central University, and in extreme cases in private homes. This has led to great word-of-mouth between the students at the universities."

Interns also enjoy emersion in Native American culture. They meet patients from many tribes, often the vision clinics are their first contact with tribal citizens. While in Oklahoma, interns have the opportunity to tour the Chickasaw Cultural Center, Chickasaw Council House Museum, and the Chickasaw Capitol Building, among others. They are also able to use Chickasaw Wellness Centers to stay active.

The Chickasaw Nation Health System is considered one of the top optometry externship sites, and the students, doctors and the patients reap great rewards.

CONTRIBUTED BY K.C. Cole, Public Affairs.

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Chickasaw elder has dedicated life to service of others

Chickasaw elder Catherine (Wisdom) Pendergraft has dedicated many of her 90 years to caring for and serving others, including her children and grandchildren, Carter Seminary students and many others.

In a recent interview at the Ada Senior Site, the spry elder recalled many happy years spent serving as a house parent for hundreds of students at her alma mater, Carter Seminary.

Education and family have always been top priorities in her life.

Mrs. Pendergraft, who turned 90 in December, worked at Carter Seminary more than 15 years during the late 1980s and 90s. Remarkably, while working the full-time job in the evenings, she was also raising two grandchildren and maintaining a 3.5 grade-point average at Murray State College in Tishomingo.

Some of her most cherished memories from Carter Seminary include nurturing students through stressful situations and being a trusted mentor and advisor to the students.

When they had no one else to speak to, they would confide in the understanding lady they call "Grandma."

"They learned to trust me and would tell me things that happened to them in their life," Mrs. Pendergraft said.

At age 58, she took some ribbing from family members for working so hard to complete her higher education and staying on at Carter Seminary, instead of pursing other career opportunities.

"I told them 'I can use my college (at Carter) – I am a nurse, a counselor and a taxi driver.' It was something I wanted to do."

Mrs. Pendergraft's life-long connection tp Carter Seminary began in the 1930s when, as a six-year-old, she enrolled in the Ardmore-area boarding school, then known as "Bloomfield Academy."

She said she enjoyed her experience at boarding school during the Depression Era.

Born in 1928 and raised "way out in the boonies" along Pennington Creek, she was able to have many new experiences and opportunities at Carter Seminary.

"We got to do things on the weekends and were fed good meals," she said.

Like many Oklahomans during the 1930s, the family lived fairly isolated out in the country, and didn't have much money or food. But, they always made the best of any situation.

Her granny, Ruthie Lewis, made many family meals from cornmeal, salt pork and poke salad.

Mother Alice Carnee-Wisdom developed a routine to get her brood of seven ready for the transition "back to school" from the family home in rural Johnston County.

"We had to get some clothes and shoes, because we didn't wear shoes in the summertime," Mrs. Pendergraft said. "She would take us to Blackie's barber shop to get a 'Charlie Brown' haircut. Then she would take us to this little restaurant - it was a Chinese Restaurant - which had white table cloths and buy us a big meal. Then she would take us out to the school."

"Cat," as Mrs. Pendergraft is known to friends and family, attended Carter Seminary until completion - the ninth grade - and then enrolled in Chilocco in 1939.

Chickasaw elder Catherine (Wisdom) Pendergraft was honored by her family at a "Roaring 20's" surprise 90th birthday party on Dec. 26 at the Artesian Hotel in Sulphur, Okla. Four generations of Chickasaw family members attended, along with Gov. Bill Anoatubby and several friends.

The transition to the larger school in far northern Oklahoma was a bit challenging, but she adapted.

"It was a huge school, it had about 800 students," she said. "It was an agricultural school. I was proud to learn everything they taught us."

She remembers the dress code at Chilocco, a military-inspired uniform and "break-in" shoes. "Once you break them in, they are okay," she chuckled.

After she completed Chilocco, she moved to Oklahoma City and began her career in the workforce. The 20-something shared an apartment with a few of her Chilocco schoolmates.

Her varied career experiences range from processing meat at the Armour Meat Company to working as a waitress at some of Oklahoma City's legendary restaurants.

"I started waitress work and that's what I love to do," Mrs. Pendergraft said. "You meet all kinds of people from all over the country."

She worked at Bishops, which was the oldest restaurant in Oklahoma City. When it closed, she went to work at Cattlemen's Steakhouse.

Along the way, she had two sons, Randy and Steve, and two daughters, Paula and Anita.

"We lived on my tips and I had good friends to help babysit the kids."

In 1975, after her children finished high school, she moved back to the family home place in Johnston County. She lives near the original homestead.

"I said when I left in 1945 I would never come back to this place, but I've had to eat my words," she laughed.

She took a job at the Chickasaw Motor Inn in Sulphur, where she worked as a waitress for a few years while caring for two grandchildren.

"Then I decided I wanted to do something else, so I went to Murray State College and got my degree in business."

Gov. Bill Anoatubby said Chickasaw elders like Mrs. Pendergraft, with their long legacy of service and commitment to education, set an excellent example for others to follow.

"Mrs. Pendergraft's determination, strength and dedication to care for her own family, and other Native American children, paved the way for many Chickasaws from all walks of life," Gov. Anoatubby said. "Her legacy of commitment to education and family will have a positive impact for generations to come."

Chickasaw traditions, rural life

Mrs. Pendergraft grew up eating what are now considered traditional Chickasaw meals.

Pashofa was made by her mother in a large iron pot, along with a dish known as "blue bread" -dried and ground corn poured in milk.

"That was really good," she said.

Other staples were mincemeat and raisin pie, fish and squirrel and a pot of beans cooked over the fire by her granny.

"We didn't have a lot but my mother knew how to get things," she said. "She was a go-getter."

A nearby spring supplied cold water and was used as a place to keep the milk, butter and Pashofa fresh and meat cold.

As a youngster, getting supplies and food involved finding a ride to the nearest town or asking the mail carrier to deliver goods along with the next mail run.

"We had no transportation, but our neighbors had a team of horses and they would take us to town," she said.

"Going to town" meant Mill Creek. She recalled it had a hardware store, barber shop, grocery store and bank.

Besides being a midwife, her mother served as an interpreter for Chickasaw people during important meetings.

Although her dad's side of the family spoke primarily Chickasaw, the Wisdom children spoke English in the home.

"My mother was fluent (in Chickasaw) but we didn't speak it at home," Mrs. Pendergraft said. "She wanted us to be able to speak the English language. We never had a problem with that. I learned some Chickasaw, and I can understand, but I can't speak it. I can say a sentence or two and that's about it."

Mrs. Pendergraft was feted at a "Roaring '20s" birthday party at the Artesian Hotel in Sulphur, Okla. Front row from left, Aden Carroll, Catherine Factor, Cassidy Porter, Enoch Porter, Catherine "Cat" Pendergraft, Camden Baken, Governor Anoatubby, Paula Brown, and LaRue Wright. Back row from left, Hagen Baken and Paul Baken.

Celebrations and Milestones

Mrs. Pendergraft was honored by her family at a "Roaring '20s" surprise 90th birthday party at the Artesian Hotel in Sulphur on Dec. 26. Four generations of Chickasaw family members attended, along with Gov. Anoatubby and several friends.

"It made me feel important," she said.

Mrs. Pendergraft has nine grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

About Carter Seminary

For many years, Carter Seminary educated Native American boys and girls in dormitory-style on the Ardmore campus.

Carter Seminary was built in 1917 as a replacement for the Chickasaw girls school Bloomfield Academy, which was located in Bryan County and burned in 1914.

The school was renamed Carter Seminary in 1934 in honor of Chickasaw Charles D. Carter.

In 1949, the school became co-educational and in 1953 Native American students from across the United States lived on-campus, but attended public school off campus.

Bloomfield was founded in 1852 near Achille, Okla., and opened in the fall of 1853 as a boarding school for girls. The curriculum included English language and alphabet, spelling, reading, writing and arithmetic.

The Chickasaw Children's Village in Kingston, Okla., is the successor to the historic Carter Seminary in Ardmore.

Visit www.chickasaw.net/Services/Chickasaw-Children-s-Village.aspx for more information about the Chickasaw Children's Village.

CONTRIBUTED BY Dana Lance, Media Relations.

Chickasaw Nation-area high school students gather to consider careers in health care

ADA, Okla. – As America grays, health care providers are banding together to interest young people in medical careers. An estimated 10,000 "Baby Boomers" reach age 65 daily, a fact that will continue for the next 20 years, illustrating the need for more quality medical professionals in the future.

The Chickasaw Nation Medical Center, Mercy Hospital Ada, Pontotoc Technology Center, Rolling Hills Hospital and East Central University's nursing department recently hosted a Career Exploration Day at Ada's Agri-Plex. The event attracted 218 high school students from the Chickasaw Nation communities of Ada, Latta, Vanoss, Byng and Tupelo.

The March 10 gathering marked three years since tribal, city, and county health facilities first hosted a day to introduce talented students to medical careers. There will always be a need for physicians and registered nurses. However, experts say a much wider range of health care careers will be in demand for decades to come as Americans grow older.

Among careers other than doctors and RNs are pharmacists, emergency medical team first-responders, radiology techs, practical nurses, respiratory therapists, nutritionists, lab technicians and an endless list of professionals charged with helping Americans stay healthy and enjoy a higher quality of life into their 80s and 90s.

Governor Bill Anoatubby recently spoke to an Oklahoma Health Improvement Plan group in Noble, Okla., on the same day students explored medical careers in Ada. He stressed the importance of health care now and in the future.

Quoting famed essayist and poet Ralph Waldo Emerson, Gov. Anoatubby said, "the first wealth is health."

"Health and wellness are at the very core of our quality of life," he said. "In 2010, we dedicated the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center in Ada to help meet the health care needs of Chickasaws and other Native Americans we serve.

"We made a significant investment in this facility because we want to be prepared to meet today's needs and the needs of generations to come."

Since opening, the Medical Center has treated more than 1 million patients. Last year alone, the Medical Center dispensed more than 1.3 million prescriptions.

High school students from Ada, Latta, Byng, Vanoss, and Tupelo take part in Career Exploration Day. Health care providers such as the Chickasaw Nation Medical Center and Mercy Hospital Ada engage students in considering careers in health care.

CONTRIBUTED BY Gene Lehmann, Media Relations.

Walk for Sexual Abuse Awareness set for April 11 at Wintersmith Park

The Chickasaw Nation Princesses present the Lord's Prayer at the 6th Annual Walk to Stomp Out Sexual Assault. From left, Chickasaw Jr. Princess Faithlyn Seawright, Little Miss Chickasaw Jacee Underwood and Chickasaw Princess Savannah Burwell.

ADA, Okla. - One of every three Native American women are victims of sexual assault per year.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. To raise awareness and offer support to victims, the Office of Violence Prevention will host the seventh annual walk at Wintersmith Park on Saturday, April 11. Last year, 543 people participated in the local walk to provide encouragement for victims of sexual assault.

Because of the personal nature of the crime, sexual assaults often go unreported.

"Think about it," tribal Violence Prevention manager Joy Burris said. "They have experienced something that is very, very private. If they report it and follow through to court, the private assault now becomes very, very public."

The tribe partners with a number of agencies throughout the Chickasaw Nation's 13-county region to assist victims with counseling, career development and legal advocacy.

For more information on the April 11 walk, call (580) 272-5580 or email joy.burris@chickasaw.net

To report sexual assaults nationwide, call 1 (800)-656-HOPE.

CONTRIBUTED BY Tamara Roberts, Public Affairs.

Charley "Sonny" Pettenridge, Sr.

Charley Watson Pettenridge, Sr., "Sonny" was born December 10, 1946 and died February 19, 2015.

Mr. Pettenridge served six years in the U.S. Army. He was a decorated Vietnam veteran. He was married 46 years to the love of his life, Linda. He retired from Dayton Tire and the U.S. Postal Service. He was a proud citizen of the Chickasaw Nation. He loved to fish, eat, and tinker with motorcycles and vehicles. He never met a stranger and was a member of South Lindsay Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Linda; daughter, Kimberly and James Clagg; son, Charley, Jr. and Lori; three sisters, Betty Jones, Charlene Farmer, and Johnnie Sherrill Dadger; six grandchildren; 1 great-grandchild and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charley John and Myrtle Pettenridge; and one brother, Michael.

He will be greatly missed.

Services were February 23, 2015 at South Lindsay Baptist Church in Oklahoma City. Interment was in Fairview Cemetery, Tuttle, Okla. Services were under the direction of John M. Ireland Funeral Home and Chapel in Moore, Okla.

"Today at 4:20 am, my grandfather went to be with his Lord. It was an honor to know this man. It was a great honor to call him my grandfather. He loved us all dearly and unconditionally. I loved this man more than anything. He'd give you the shirt off his back and he never met a stranger. He could fix anything with a wrench. He was a gift to this world. I can't wait to see you in heaven, grandpa. Love forever and always. Please pray for our family."

Vergie Marie Risner

Vergie Marie Risner died December 24, 2014. She was born March 22, 1924 to Tena Alice Perry and John Martin Bonds in Ada, Okla.

She was the granddaughter of William Perry and Eliza Colbert. By way of hard times, the family moved to Arizona then to California when she was six years old.

She was an elder in the great Chickasaw Nation. The Risner family moved into the Sunset Camp in 1945 and lived there until purchasing their family home in Lamont in 1953.

Her life was always dedicated to serving others first. She worked very hard in the fields as a farm laborer and at raising her children. She was a big part of helping start the Dust Bowl Festival. Even though she outlived her brothers and sisters and many of her friends, she will be missed by all that knew her, and were encouraged by her.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Atwood Risner, and her eight siblings.

She is survived by her son, Jimmy Phillips and family; daughter, Sharon Garrison and family; daughter-in-law Vern Risner and family; and son-in-law, Robert White and family.

The family wishes to give special thanks to the staff at Evergreen Arvin Care facility for the years of care and support for Mom. She loved her flowers and vegetable garden, and fishing with Daddy.

Joel Preston Powell, Jr.

Joel Preston Powell, Jr., 85, died Sunday, February 15, 2015. He was born in Fort Worth, Texas, on July 12, 1929 and was a proud citizen of the Chickasaw Nation.

After serving a short stint in the U.S. Army Air Corps, he worked at various jobs until finally retiring from Montgomery Ward after more than 25 years of service as an electronics repair technician. He also worked as an automotive mechanic for family, friends and neighbors. Upon retirement, he spent time working in the maintenance department at Keller ISD.

Preston loved to stay busy throughout his years. He enjoyed woodworking, making things for others, and tinkering with anything that needed fixing. But, most of all, Preston was happiest having all of his family surrounding him. Everyone enjoyed listening to his stories about growing up. As one of eight children, there were quite a few stories to tell.

In his later years, he enjoyed the company of his little dog, Mitzi. He never met a stranger; he could always initiate a conversation with anyone. He will forever be loved and missed by everyone.

He is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Wanda Powell; brother, Cecil Powell; son, Joel Powell and wife, Ruth; daughters, Gail Wolff and husband, Marty; and Annette Nelon, and husband, Craig; 10 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, five sisters and grandson, Von Powell.

Graveside services were at Greenwood Memorial Park.

Luke Thomas Malaska

Luke Thomas Malaska, 35, died January 14, 2015. He was born February 4, 1979 and resided in Deer Creek, Okla., most of his life.

He had a huge spirit, possibly too big for this world. He was a dedicated oil field worker, and was a knowledgeable and respected mud engineer. He accepted all he met as friends, and was a very generous person to those in need. If he knew of someone who was struggling or experiencing hard times, he always extended them well wishes and anything that would help them in their time of need. He was known to many as a friend and of which they could count on for anything.

He was a proud Chickasaw, and a descendant and great grandson of original enrollee, Archie Leonard Willis.

Luke is survived by daughter, Madison Malaska, of Ohio; and son, Brytton Malaska, of Shawnee, Okla; his parents, Jim and Kathy Malaska; his sisters, Amber and Katy; aunts, uncles and numerous cousins that adored him. He also shared his life with Jenny Hatley and shared a special bond with his dearest and cherished canine companion, Ike.

Rest in peace, dear Luke, as you are finally reunited with your Mima, Armedia, whom you referred to as the most wonderful woman God put on this planet.

Jimmy George Albert Johnson, Jr.

Jimmy George Albert Johnson, Jr., 63, died February 16, 2015. He was born March 8, 1951 in Oklahoma City to Irene and Jimmy Johnson, Sr.

After graduation from Hancock North Central High School, Bay St. Louis, Miss., in 1969, he served his country as a sergeant in the U.S. Air Force during Vietnam. He later earned his associates degree from Oklahoma City Community College in electrical engineering, and worked in the elevator industry for more than 40 years.

He married his sweetheart, Sandra Lee Howard, on May 17, 1975 and together shared almost 40 years of marriage and raising a family.

He was an active member of numerous organizations including the National Association of Elevator Contractors, Safety Authorities International, OK Minority Supplier Enterprise, the International Union of Elevator Constructors, Boy Scouts of America Assistant Scoutmaster and Troop Committee member, Camp Fire Boys & Girls, American Legion, and a VFW member.

A longtime member of Crossroads Church, he loved and served the Lord, his family and others, with all of his heart.

During April of 1995, he bravely helped assist first responders during the search, rescue and life-saving efforts after the bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. He was honored for his valiant efforts with the Award of Merit from the OK State Firefighters Association, an OK Governor's Commendation, Otis Elevator Special Award, and appreciation award and letter from the General Services Administration.

He will be deeply missed.

He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Sande Johnson, of the home; parents, Jimmy and Irene Johnson; son, Jimmy Johnson, III and wife, Vitalina; daughter, Aimee Henry and husband, Jason; 4 brothers: Oscar Johnson and wife, Cheryl Ann, Gilbert Johnson and wife, Carolyn, David Johnson and wife, Jo, and Kenneth Johnson and wife, Mary; sister, Katherine Steele and husband, Virgil; and many other loving family & friends.

Jason Isaac LeBlonde, Sr.

Jason Isaac LeBlonde, Sr., 42, formerly of Elko, Minn., died February 13, 2015 after a two-year battle with Leukemia.

He is survived by his parents, Don and Maggie Buerke; daughters, Maysen and Makenna; son, J.J.; aunts, uncles, cousins and many friends.

Graveside services were in Norman, Okla.

Programs & Services Directory available

The 2015 Programs & Services Directory is now available for download at Chickasaw.net/servicedirectory. Hard copies will soon be mailed directly to all Chickasaw citizens.

The Programs & Services Directory contains information about all tribal programs and services. Inside the directory are program descriptions, contact information and office locations.

Edwin Neil Burris

Edwin Neil Burris, 63, of Ada, Okla., died Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at his home. He was born November 17, 1951 in Talahina, Okla. to M.B. (Mose) and Willie (Nora) Stick Burris.

Mr. Burris grew up in the Lula area and attended Tupelo School. He was a self-employed carpenter and painter. He was a member of the Crosspointe Church. He retired and moved to Ada to be a full-time Papa.

Survivors include two daughters, Angela Fowler and husband, Scott, of Del City, Okla., and Elizabeth Ellis and husband, Jeremy, of Ada; one son, Patrick Burris and wife, Tiffany, of Happyland; seven grandchildren, Hailey Ellis, Jayson Ellis, Jarrett Ellis, Treston Burris, Jayden Ellis, Dawson Matzavech and Bryce Matzavech; two sisters, Winnie Fox, of Del City, Okla., and Alyne Burris, of Ada; two brothers, David Burris, and Hoyt Burris and wife, Karen, both of Ada; nieces, nephews and other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; four sisters, Doris O'Neal, Nearthur Mozella Burris, Sebena Burris and Mary Burris Coughran, and one brother, Gabe Burris. Bearers were Buddy Tartsah, Stewart Ryan, Bo Tomlinson, Rick Miller, Graig Cheek and John Clifford. Honorary bearers were Hoyt and David Burris.

Services were at Crosspointe Church, where Pastors Shawn Wiebers and Chad Large officiated. Burial followed in High Hill Cemetery.

Mary Jane Reynolds-Kelley

Mary Jane Reynolds-Kelley, 54, of Citrus Heights, Calif., died February 15, 2015 after a five-year courageous battle against cancer. She was born in Ft. Ord, Calif., to Walter and Nadine Reynolds.

She had a 30-year successful career in commercial and residential real estate. She is the granddaughter of Chickasaw original enrollee, Rachel Brown Reynolds.

She is survived by her husband, Jerry Kelley; daughter, Tasha Kelley; siblings, Walter R. Reynolds, Carrol Reynolds-Lopez (John), Phil Reynolds (Sonia), and Tom Reynolds (Juli), all of California; numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, in Calif. and Hawaii; and numerous cousins in Texas and Oklahoma.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Walter (Buster) Reynolds, of Gainesville, Texas, and Nadine Ann Reynolds, of Milpitas, Calif.; Susan Reynolds, of Hawaii, and Marvin Reynolds, of California.

Sharlene Hurt Tucker

Sharlene Hurt Tucker died March 10, 2015 in Plano, Texas. She was born October 7, 1938 at the Lawton Indian Hospital in Lawton, Okla., to Mr. and Mrs. Harley Hurt.

She was a beloved daughter, sister, mother, grandmother and a dear faithful friend. Affectionately, known, as "Beanie" to her family and friends.

Through two marriages, Sharlene was blessed with four children: Scott Tucker and his wife Betsy, of Dallas; Robert Kelly Tucker, of Sulphur, Okla.; Stephanie Morrison, of Plano, Texas; and Kim Pruitt, of Burlington, Texas. She was delightfully blessed with four grandchildren, whom she adored as well, Brennan Tucker, of Plano; Tori and Serena Tucker, of Coppell, Texas; and Faryn Morrison, of Plano. She also has a number of cousins, nieces and nephews throughout the country.

She grew up in Altus, Okla. and graduated from Altus High School in 1956. She went on to a career of 33 years with Texas Instruments, which began when the family moved to Texas in the early 1960s. After retiring from Texas Instruments in 1996, she joined the TIAA group and was actively involved for many years. In 2000, she worked part-time for VLSI Technology Co, while also taking care of her mom, Cassandra, who had had stroke. In addition to her career with TI, she also earned her associates of business degree from Collin College. She enjoyed the fellowship and ministry of her spiritual family at First Baptist Church of Plano, of which she was a member for nearly 52 years. She also enjoyed reading scripture and learning about the Lord's plan in her life.

She was an avid sports fan, loved baseball, basketball and especially college football. She was an excellent basketball player in her high school days at Altus High. In Plano, during the high school football season, you could find Sharlene with her "box buddies" cheering Plano Senior High School to victory. She also enjoyed travel, the theatre and adventure. She enjoyed getting together with girlfriends on Sunday evenings to go to the summer musicals at Fair Park. She became a "first-time snow skier" at the age of 45 when the "singles" group from First Baptist Church of Plano went to Winter Park, Colo., for a ski weekend and she was hooked. For a number of years to follow, one would find her looking for the best ski package deals and Banff, Canada became a favorite. She always said if you needed to find her, she would be there, enjoying the beauty of the majestic mountains.

She will be greatly missed by her family and friends who loved her dearly.

She is preceded in death by her father, Harley Henson Hurt; mother, Cassandra Ellen Hurt; brother, George Wilson Hurt; and her first husband, Johnny Hall Tucker.

A Celebration of Life service was March 17, 2015 at First Baptist Plano. Interment was in the family plot at a later date.

Anompa Himitta' Ilikba'shki: Creating New Words in Chickasaw

Chickasaw language community classes set for Spring 2015

Ada
Chickasaw Language Office
Instructor - Emma McLeod
Tuesdays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
April 7, 14, 21
Contact phone - (580) 559-6195

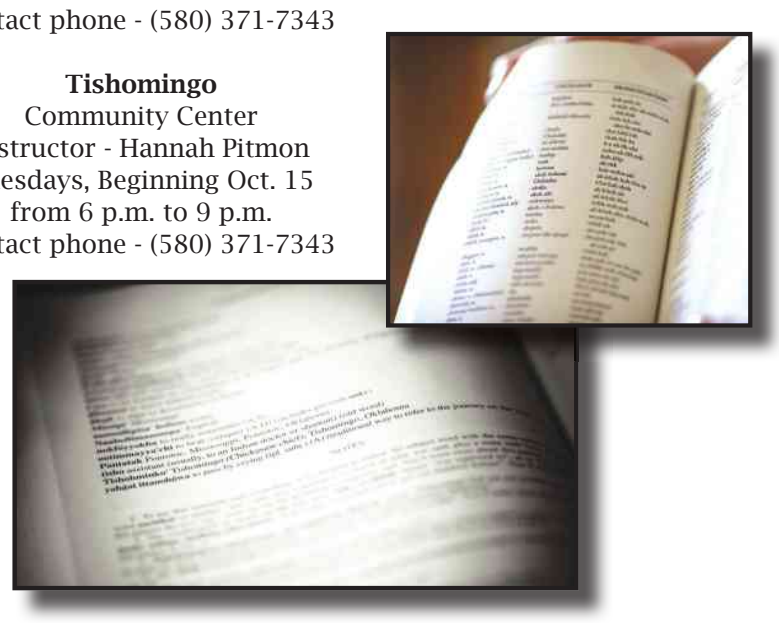
Ardmore
1311 Stanley
Instructor - Sue Simmons
Apr. 8, 15, 22, 29
The month of May will be reserved for make-up days due to cancellations.
Contact phone - (580) 226-4509

Purcell
Purcell Area Office
Instructors - Leerene Frazier and Keith Shackleford
Mondays, 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Contact phone - (405) 527-5745
(please leave message)

Sulphur
Sulphur Senior Site
Thursdays, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Instructor - Hannah Pitmon
Contact phone - (580) 371-7343

Tishomingo
Community Center
Instructor - Hannah Pitmon
Tuesdays, Beginning Oct. 15
from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Contact phone - (580) 371-7343

Please call instructor to confirm class before in case of illness, holidays, vacations, etc.



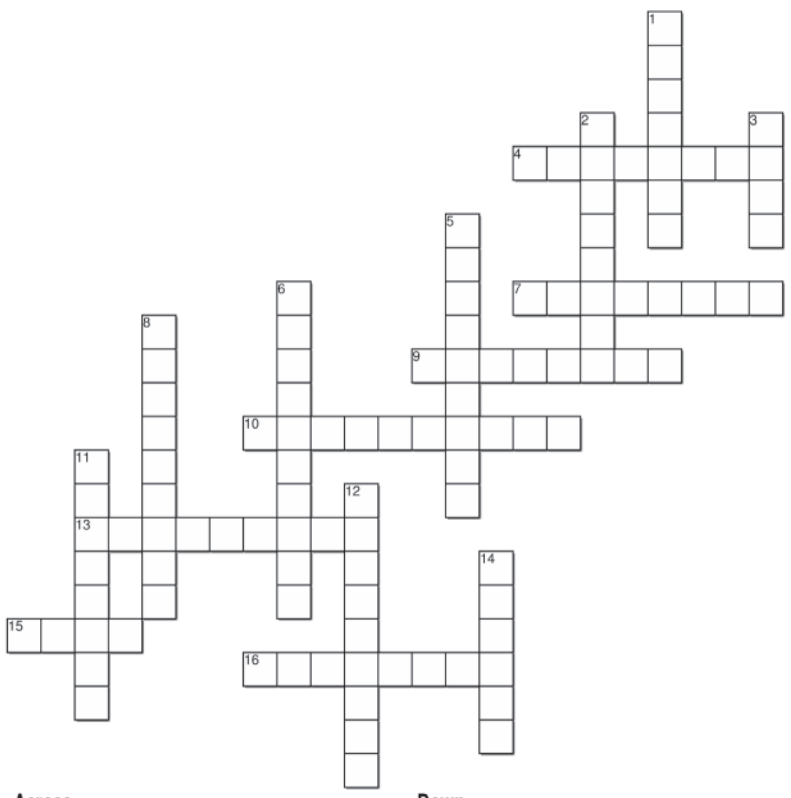
Anompa Himitta':

New Words from the Chickasaw Language Committee

hattak illapa' / shokha' hakshop kallo'	'armadillo'
naki' tokafishto'	'atomic bomb'
oktak shawi'	'badger'
nannishmallichi'	'battery'
choosi	'to choose'
inchoosi	'to choose for'
toksala'pa sikopa'	'dinosaur'
Ishshoka' Holisso	'Facebook'
shokha' haloppa', shokha' woksho ihaloppa'	'hedgehog'
nannola'	'iPod'
bashpo falaa' ashoppala'	'lightsaber'
anompa himitta'	'neologism'
anompa' ittibaakaachi'	'sentence, 'grammatical unit'
holba' ishtchokoshkomo'	'video game'
oktaak ofi	'prairie dog'
nannimilhlha'	'wild animals'
talaanompa' ishtáa'	'cell phone'
tali' lopi'	'computer'
tali' lopi' lawa'	'Internet'
ilbakishki' anompoli	'text' (verb)

New Chickasaw Words

Complete the crossword below



Across

4. anompa' ittibaakaachi'
7. toksala'pa sikopa'
9. tali' lopi' - a programmable electronic device
10. bashpo falaa' ashoppala'
13. talaanompa' ishtáa' - portable device that uses wireless technology to send and receive calls
15. nannola'
16. shokha' haloppa', shokha' woksho ihaloppa'

Down

1. nannishmallichi'
2. tali' lopi' lawa' - a vast computer network linking smaller computer networks worldwide
3. ilbakishki' anompoli - to send an instant message
5. holba' ishtchokoshkomo'
6. naki' tokafishto'
8. hattak illapa' / shokha' hakshop kallo'
11. Ishshoka' Holisso
12. anompa himitta'
14. oktak shawi'

CHICKASAW COMMUNITY COUNCILS

For a complete listing of Chickasaw Nation camps, academies and other events visit www.chickasaw.net

OKLAHOMA

ACHILLE
Achille Area Chickasaws
Quarterly, last Saturday at 1:30 p.m.
Kay Anders, 580-283-3979

CONNERVILLE
Connerville Chickasaw Community Council
Bi-Monthly, 3rd Monday at 6:30 p.m.
Tony Poe, 580-421-4994

KINGSTON
Chickasaws of Texoma
Quarterly, 4th Thursday at 6:30 p.m.
Ruth McAdoo, 580-564-6803

Marshall County Chickasaw Community Council
Monthly, 2nd Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
Sarah Lea, 580-564-4570

NEWCASTLE
Northern Pontotoc Chickasaw Community Council
Monthly, 2nd Thursday
Potluck @ 6 p.m. & Meeting @ 7 p.m.
Todd Griffith, 405-615-1303

OKLAHOMA CITY
OKC Metro Chickasaw Community Council
1st Tuesday
Potluck @ 6 p.m. & Meeting @ 7 p.m.
Vicki Monks, 405-524-4506
Chickasawvic@gmail.com

PURCELL
Purcell Chickasaw Community Council
4th Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
Carolee Maxwell, 405-527-7676

ARIZONA
Chickasaws of Arizona
Quarterly Meetings
Angie Ott, 480-834-7309

CALIFORNIA
Southern California Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly, 3rd Saturday 2:00 p.m.
Bill Chandler, 714-604-5224
wchandler@socal.rr.com
Northern California Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Quarterly
Phil Reynolds, 916-988-8182

COLORADO
Chickasaw Community Council of Colorado
Bi-Monthly
Beverly Rodgers
(303) 719-3527

KANSAS
Chickasaw Community Council of Wichita
Quarterly, 3rd Sunday at 2:30 p.m.
Lynn Stumblingbear, 316-945-9219

LOUISIANA
Monroe Area Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semi-Annually
Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

MISSOURI
St. Louis Area Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semi-Annually
Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

NEW ENGLAND
New England Chickasaw Citizen Connection
Semi-Annually
Chickasaw Outreach, 580-332-1165

NEW MEXICO
New Mexico Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly
Rita Yepa, 505-350-8372

OREGON/WASHINGTON
Pacific Northwest Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly
Rena Smith, 503-543-7401

TEXAS
Chickasaw Community Council of Central Texas
2nd Sunday at 2 p.m.
Jay Hurst, 512-784-5281
centraltexaschickasaws@gmail.com

Chickasaw Community Council of South Texas
Monthly, 2nd Sunday at 2 p.m.
Ellen Brooker
ebrooker@swisd.net

North Texas Chickasaw Community Council
3rd Saturday, Bedford, Texas
John Atkins
972-271-0692

Tyler Area Chickasaw Community Council
Quarterly
Howard Thompson, 903-570-9244

Chickasaw composer presents 'A Scary Potter Musical' production at ECU

ADA, Okla. - Chickasaw citizen Zach Garcia's parody of the famous Harry Potter series premiered at East Central University in March.

Mr. Garcia titled the production "A Scary Potter Musical." The entire production features 11 original songs composed by Mr. Garcia.

He is a classically trained pianist who has been featured on "Profiles of a Nation," a series of short television spots that introduce television viewers to exceptional Chickasaw people via Chickasaw.tv.

Mr. Garcia penned the script and created the storyboard for the production. He also performed the lead role of Harry Potter.

Approximately 40 ECU students and Ada area community theatre enthusiasts enjoyed the production at ECU's Dorothy Summers Theatre.

Zach Garcia, whose parody of the Harry Potter series premiered at East Central University.

The Chickasaw Nation will offer "How to Audition" workshops from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, April 25.

These workshops will assist any Chickasaw Arts Academy students who seek help in the auditioning process. A limit of 10 students will be accepted per session.

Interested students should contact Chickasaw Nation Arts & Humanities at (580) 272-5520 or ArtsAcademy@chickasaw.net.

April
MOVIE SHOWCASE
2ND GOD'S NOT DEAD (PG)
9TH SECONDHAND LIONS (PG)
16TH THE GOONIES (PG)
23RD SHENANDOAH (GENERAL AUDIENCES)
30TH THE PARENT TRAP (PG)
SHOWTIMES: 2 P.M. & 7 P.M.
$3 GENERAL ADMISSION • $2 SENIORS • $2 CHILDREN UNDER 12
$5 MOVIE DEAL – TICKET, POPCORN & DRINK
McSwain Theatre
ADVENTURE ROAD
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR
130 W. MAIN, ADA, OK 74820 • 580-332-8108
WWW.MCSWAINTHEATRE.COM

It's time once again to feature our Chickasaw High School Seniors

The *Chickasaw Times* would like to congratulate each of you on your accomplishment by featuring you in our May 2015 issue.

Your biography and photo will appear in this special issue if you email them to us at times.chickasaw@chickasaw.net or by completeing the form below and mail it to us with a photo no later than **Wednesday, April 15, 2015**.

NOTICE:

Email (preferred):
Information *(300 words or less)* and photo can be emailed to times.chickasaw@chickasaw.net.

Mail:
Please send form and an original photo (not a photo copy). The photo will be returned if you include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Senior Profile Form

(Please PRINT clearly)

Name _____

Home town _____

High School _____

Parents/guardians _____
(If parents are deceased or divorced, please indicate)

Grandparents _____

_____

Information about graduate *(include school activities, extracurricular activities, future plans, etc.)*

_____

_____

_____

_____

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_____

Please mail your completed form to
Chickasaw Times, P.O. Box 1548, Ada, OK 74821